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CONTADORA GROUP DEPUTY MINISTERS END MEETING

PA271615 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1502 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Panama City, 27 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The deputy foreign ministers of the Contadora Group began returning to their respective capitals today following a "highly technical preparatory" meeting prior to the meeting that the group's ministers will hold with their Central American counterparts in the first half of September.

Deputy Foreign Ministers Ricardo Valero (Mexico), Julio Londono Paredes (Colombia), and Osvaldo Paz Pomares (Venezuela) held 2 days of talks here with their Panamanian counterpart, Jose Maria Cabrera. The meeting concluded without an official communique, nor did the deputy ministers make any statements on agreements reached.

The upcoming foreign ministers meeting will be an attempt to reconcile three documents containing programs for achieving peace in Central America. The first of these documents is the one issued by the Contadora Group presidents in Cancun. The second was presented by Nicaragua, and the third was offered by Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica.

Meanwhile, Panamanian Foreign Ministry sources have reported that declarations of support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts are continuing to arrive from various countries and international organizations.

COLOMBIA'S LLOREDA DENIES CONTADORA STALEMATED

PA261351 Paris AFP in Spanish 2337 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota, 25 Aug (AFP) -- Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloredo today denied that there is a stalemate in the Contadora Group's contacts, as has been alleged, and he expressed confidence that the initial agreements necessary to secure peace in Central America will soon be achieved.

In a meeting with journalists in Bogota, Lloreda reminded them that a group of advisers from Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela began a meeting in Panama City today to review all of the documents pertaining to developments in the area crisis. The documents, in which the nations that are in conflict explain their positions, will be assessed in Panama City by the four Contadora foreign ministers and their Central American counterparts early in September, he said.

Insisting that there is no stalemate in the Contadora Group's mediation, he said that the group has tried to create the necessary atmosphere to "prevent a war," while admitting that some peripheral problems have arisen.

Asked if the conflicting positions taken by Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador are impeding the peaceful solutions advocated by the Contadora Group, Lloreda said: "I hope not."

"The fact is that these countries have been cooperating in the process, despite differences in viewpoints," he declared. He added that the Salvadoran Government is willing to establish a dialogue with the guerrilla groups. He stressed that the new Guatemalan Government -- which until recently seemed less inclined to cooperate -- has changed its position and now is expressing ready willingness to deal with the Contadora Group.

BANKS DENY REPORTS OF INVOLVEMENT IN SCANDAL

PY260402 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Aug 83 pp 1, 9

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Two banks have released statements denying press reports published yesterday on their suspected involvement in an alleged financial manoeuvre, whereby state banks were said to have lost the equivalent of 200 million dollars.

The report quoted Economy Ministry sources as saying that Central Bank President Julio Gonzalez del Solar had advised eight private banks of the upcoming regulations for call-money operations -- issued by the government on August 10 -- thus allowing the financial institutions to act a step ahead of the measures, taking seven-day loans totalling the equivalent of 200 million dollars at extremely high interst rates, on the knowledge that the loans would be refinanced at much lower rates.

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company's denial said: "With reference to reports which appeared in some of yesterday's newspapers, which named this institution as one of several banks which allegedly benefitted from advance knowledge of the recent Central Bank measures affecting the interbank market, we wish to advise the public as follows: 1) This bank had no advance knowledge whatsoever of thee Central Bank measures. Therefore, the allegation that it did is absolutely untrue. 2) The volume of funds borrowed by this institution in the interbank market during August, far from increasing as alleged, in fact decreased significantly from earlier levels."

The board of directors of the Banco Rio de la Plata, for its part, "categorically denies that this institution has benefited from the advance knowledge of the financial measures adopted last week by the Central Bank, as was said in an August 23 cable produced by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS news agency and quoted by some media sources. Banco Rio's net call-money loan standing at the end of August 10 -- when the measures came into effect -- was of 13 million dollars that had been lent out, in view of its comfortable liquidity situation. Therefore the situation is exactly the opposite to the one referred to in press reports, which is the reason Banco Rio was denied a compensatory loan from the Central Bank for an equal amount."

An Economy Ministry statement released last night said that the Central Bank president had not informed "any person or financial institution" of the upcoming financial reforms before they were announced.

This statement added that the Central Bank has decided to start proceedings to determine whether any banks had made any unusual call-money operations on the days prior to the financial market reform. The proceedings will also be aimed at revealing whether any banks had reported unusual profits.

Soon afterwards, the Central Bank released a statement of its own confirming the Economy Ministry communique. The banks press release also included a summary report pointing to the fact that no unusual developments had been observed on the financial market immcdiately before or after the August 10 reforms.

Meanwhile, court sources said that Federal Prosecutor Alberto Daniel Piotti might file charges against Julio Gonzalez del Solar, requesting Federal Judge Martin Anzoategui to investigate reports of the official's involvement in the alleged manoeuvre.

The sources said that Piotti would request Judge Anzoategui to start a probe into the consequences of Central Bank communique 366, "which seriously harmed several state banks, and from which other private entities may have benefitted in an amount of over 200 million dollars."

In a related development, Jose Peysere, an investor in the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, sent a registered letter to the Central Bank president requesting him to resign "if he has any dignity left."

JOURNALIST KELLY ISSUES STATEMENT ON ABDUCTION

PY262227 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Aug 83 pp 1, 20

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- Nationalist leader Guillermo Patricio Kelly, who turned up alive at a service station in Maschwitz shortly after midnight yesterday, attributed his abduction to "a mafia which has more power in this country than the Armed Forces."

At an impromptu news conference outside his home, Kelly said he knew the identity of several of the armed men who kidnapped him on Wednesday morning, but declined to name them on the grounds of "secret court proceedings."

The 14 men who allegedly took part in his abduction "belong to a gang of followers of Lorenzo Miguel who have been acting within the labour unions for many years, with the help of their bodyguards, professional killers and drug dealers," Kelly said.

District Judge Lucio Zomoza, who is investigating the case, "will disclose the identity of my captors on Monday," the editor of the monthly QUORUM magazine said.

Visibly tired, Kelly told the crowd of journalists that he had testified before Judge Somoza at the 35th Precinct police station "from three to six in the morning." This followed "a three-hour testimony at a provincial police station in Maschwitz," 40 km north of downtown Buenos Aires, where he was taken after reportedly asking for help at the Maschwitz Argentine Automobile Club (ACA) service station. An eyewitness at the service station said Kelly's clothes were "bloodstained all over."

Asked whether the incident might have been a "self-abduction," Kelly replied angrily:

"They beat me on the head and kicked me in the kidneys until I urinated blood. Then they broke one of my legs and bust my testicle... What else do you want? Do you want me to show them to you?" Kelly had cuts all over his face and on his scalp, as well as bruises around his eyes.

Kelly praised the police's behaviour in the face of his abduction, stating that "if the patrolmen who were observing the kidnapping had done any attempt to intercede, both they and I would have been instantly killed."

The abduction was allegedly led by a man dressed up in the uniform of an Army colonel, the nationalist leader said, terming the incident "an insult to the Armed Forces." This man, who "was called 'Federico' by the gang", was "ready to kill both policemen and military personnel," Kelly said.

As for the rest of the group, Kelly said that three of them were nicknamed "Doctor," "Turco" and "Bagre." According to Kelly, "if the Armed Forces really wanted to dismantle this mafia, they could do so in a matter of hours."

"If they do not," he said, "28 million Argentines will continue to be the prisoners of a mafia of 100 people."

Kelly also charged that "there are 52 journalists who receive their envelopes from (former Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Emilio) Massera's gang every month," although he refused to name them. "Their (the journalists') identities will be disclosed in the next issue of QUORUM," he said.

Kelly also admitted he did not know why his captors had not killed him, adding, however, that "I do not think I will live for very long."

Meanwhile it was disclosed yesterday that the federal police has strengthened police protection of Federal Judges Oscar Salvi and Nicasio Dibur, who are heading court probes into the murder of businessman Fernando Braca and the activities of the "Triple A" terrorist organization respectively. Kelly has provided massive evidence in both cases.

ARMED FORCES SAY ANONYMOUS CHARGES 'BASELESS'

PY272332 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1547 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Aug (NA) -- The Army and the Air Force have categorically denied anonymous charges made against members of those branches in connection with their participation in the antisubversive war. For its part, the Navy reported that it is conducting an investigation into "the situations which have resulted in legal measures" against high-ranking Navy officers.

After unscheduled separate meetings, the Navy and the Air Force issued communiques on the matter, while the Army released a communique last night.

The government also commented on the anonymous document published by Raul Ibarra and Gregorio Dupont. Interior Minister Llamil Reston said last night that "the match was lighted so close to the fuse that if we do not do something, all of us may blow up." The document released by Ibarra and Dupont, which is linked with the charges that Guillermo Patricio Kelly made hours before, includes accusations against the Armed Forces in connection with the antisubversive war.

The Air Force "categoricaly" denied the charges leveled against its personnel in connection with the activities of the so-called Triple A. Air Force Secretary General Brigadier General Alberto Simari said that the officers whose names appear in the anonymous charges "have called the accusations irresponsible and completely baseless." Simari added that "an investigation is being made into the content of the charges and the mechanism used to disseminate them, so that those who have been affected may take appropriate legal actions."

Meanwhile, Navy admirals considered yesterday "the situations which have resulted in legal measures" against Navy personnel, as well as "the different press interpretations and comments on the matter." It was learned that the Navy has decided to designate a special court to prosecute the Navy personnel charged with involvement in alleged excesses during repression, a charge that was made by former policeman Peregrino Fernandez.

For its part, the Army denied the charges against its personnel last night and remarked that this kind of accusation "and its broad dissemination, which is not easy to explain," are facts that "disrupt the atmosphere of social peace and tranquillity."

"The use of that method (anonymous note) to disseminate insults and accusations disqualifies not only its contents, but also the moral standing of those who use it," says the communique released by Army headquarters.

PRESIDENT SILES ADDRESSES NEW CABINET, NATION

PY261205 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 2322 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Speech by Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo to incoming cabinet, given at Quemado Palace in La Paz -- live]

[Text] Messrs ministers: We are reorganizing this government under difficult circumstances for the country. It is not only a question of the social and economic crisis, which has been made much more serious by the drought in the Altiplano and by the floods in the east, but it is also a question of factors pertaining to a lack of freedom that have been artificially created by an exaggerated sectarian passion with the objective of draining the moral reserves of the people, of forcing the people into a state of desperation, and of making the people lose faith in the common sacrifice that seeks a path that will bring less anguish upon the fatherland.

The strategists engaged in creating tension have not been able to extend their campaign any further than their own social and political limitations. The multitude of the statements that cause alarm, and the assertions to the effect that there is no coherence within the government, or that attribute it to irreparable political disorder, can only satisfy those who are seeking the failure of this democratic process. But they cannot impede the people's decision to continue to support the government, because they see in the government the only true alternative for the continuity of the democratic process, a healthy pluralism, and an ever-increasing participation of the people.

There is no corner in the fatherland where the peasants and the workers have not expressed their faith in the constitutional government and their decision to continue to support it despite the crisis and the difficulties.

A democratic, pluralistic, and participative society is not an abstract factor that exists in a vacuum. It is a reality, which at times is singularly dynamic and that, above all, must be based on a solid material and moral peace. If this base cracks or begins to move toward dangerous extremes, it is natural that the framework on which it is based will be shaken by various types of tension.

Only a strongly developed economy, which is capable of redistributing wealth in terms that will help to ease social tension, will guarantee the fluid and nonconflictive course of a democratic process. But this is an (?unreal) hypothesis in a Third World that is castigated by underdevelopment and by the effects of the world capitalist crisis.

Reality shows us a scenario that has the stigma of the dichotomy of economic and social interests and the acute confrontation of these interests in the political arena. It is well-known that in this confrontation the most privileged groups are those that contribute with the most virulent destabilizing factors.

History has shown us that there is no greater social desperation than when the conservative social class is caught up in the defense of its usual standard of living and wealth.

The government is calmly facing current excesses and sectarian interests that are undermining the democratic process, because it understands that they are rooted in a subjective situation that will continue to prevail because it was not created by those who played a major role in such abuses. This situation will continue to prevail until we overcome this crisis and strengthen our economy with responsibility and with the nation's full awareness.

Regarding what I have just said, I can tell you that the minority groups, based upon their own rights, that are trying to impose their interests on the right of the majority of the people, and those of the nation itself, are exempted from the obligation of understanding that the people must come before their egoism.

The government is currently being attacked from all sides by people who try to make it responsible for all wrongdoings. We have tried hard to view the opposition parties' criticisms as sensible positions, which could help the government and the country, but unfortunately we have found that none were constructive. This criticism is concealed under inflammatory verbiage and contains no alternatives for major national problems.

Criticism is one of the pillars of democracy, but the criticism must contain a clear indication of the solution under debate. This is the feature that distinguishes responsible politics from political chicanery or demagogy.

We have installed a new cabinet today. Some of the ministers have been confirmed because of the merit of their efficient work, their loyalty to the democratic process, and their commitment to the course that this government has taken. Other former ministers will now take up their places in Congress and other posts with the same honesty, decisiveness, and rectitude that they displayed in the cabinet. The new ministers are men who have made themselves known through an on-going commitment to the nation.

This new cabinet must shoulder a truly extraordinary responsibility regarding the immediate past. They will have the difficult mission of improving the food situation of the people, reasonably contain the inflationary process, defend the purchasing power of wages, and create the stimulus for the country's economic and industrial apparatus.

All this implies hard work and sacrifice. It also demands a large investment of personal courage. It is not the same to be a minister during times of bonanza as to be a minister during times of serious crisis, when the exercise of power means the risk that popularity may have to be sacrificed.

The ministers will not be alone at their posts. They will have the full support of the parties of the Democratic and Popular Unity, which will give them the necessary popular support so that the immediate and strategic objectives of this process can be fully achieved. [applause]

New Foreign Minister Responds

PY261305 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 2313 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Speech by incoming Foreign Affairs Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado in response to President Siles Zuazo's address to the incoming cabinet at Government House in La Paz -- live]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr President of the Republic, Messrs Ministers of State, members of the high military command, ladies and gentlemen:

Every cabinet reshuffle is important for the political life of a country. In this case, it is very important because Bolivia's political situation is serious. We have never gone through such a difficult situation because the impact of the present world crisis is perhaps worse than that of the 1929 depression.

The natural disasters, such as the floods and the droughts, which have hit various parts of the country, and the ensuing shortages, could have greater consequences if solutions are not adopted immediately.

The narrow-mindedness of politicians, sectarian interests, and selfish personal ambitions have also had an adverse effect because they prevented a positive assessment of the problems that required urgent solutions. Moreover, they caused time to be wasted because the indispensable measures to cope with national problems were not found.

The international community is aware of the efforts being made by the constitutional government to overcome the difficulties at a time when adversity is affecting all the Bolivian people.

During the past 10 months, the government has made the necessary analyses to assess the adverse situations that had to be overcome. Measures to counteract some of the effects of the crisis and prevent a greater economic deterioration were adopted. The government is currently well aware of the internal factors and elements that can be mobilized for the benefit of the country. The government is also clearly aware of the solutions the country requires.

A degree of international solidarity has already been established. Although international solidairty exists, we should not expect too much from it. International solidarity could increase if we make progress in the adoption of the internal solutions expected by our foreign supporters. This solidarity could in turn help us to effectively resolve the difficulties overpowering us.

I believe the urgent need to draw up joint action plans has been understood. At the same time, it must be recognized that we are receiving international solidarity because of the democratic and popular nature of our government.

The international community has recently realized that it must promote democratic governments. However, it must not only promote them, but also help them to resolve their problems by addressing common international difficulties.

Despite the critical world situation, our internal political situation and the democratic nature of our government made it possible for us to establish a new economic system to reduce our dependency.

Our government is based on the workers, the farmers, and the middle class, all of whom together can accomplish the national objectives of stopping the crisis, restoring the level of production which dropped in the recent past, and reactivating all sectors and regions.

Indispensable objectives are the gradual reduction of rate and resolution of the problem of the short-term debt to guarantee future development. The solution is not simply to promote a distribution of wealth to the people nor to install a stifling statism which would sap the nation's economic energy by creating a gigantic bureaucracy. The solution is to move ahead with a mixed economy which is essentially the national revolutionary model, the instrument of which is a planning system establishing priorities and roles for the public, private, and cooperative sectors so as to achieve the independent and broad development we desire.

This is also the time for readjusting the economy, establishing profitable prices in accordance with real costs, and preventing our foreign currency, obtained with great sacrifice and still depreciated in the international market, from being wasted or drained in smuggling activities at a time when the country needs the articles smuggled out of the country to gain better prices.

There is justified concern in the country for the great problems which must be resolved. The solutions [word indistinct] are well known; therefore, feasible solutions must be chosen over popular and demagogic solutions. Economic and financial terms and negotiations are based on facts, not on speculation and rhetoric. The people want decisions and action; therefore, this cabinet must be the instrument for solving problems.

Concerning the political aspect, this regime continues to be the instrument for consolidating the democratic government by searching for formulas aimed at stabilizing national political development. Economic problems can lead to the accumulation of social tensions and to the need for governing and administrating [words indistinct] useless polemics. Some sectors want to use these tensions with the sole purpose of creating destabilization. These sectors should meditate on the fact that conditions for such adventures no longer prevail due to the international support for democracy and the capacity for struggle of the Bolivian people. Any adventure would be rejected at the internal and international level.

The normal and permanent way of government for Bolivians can be none other than representative democracy, the full independence of the three branches of government, the periodic renewal of the government, and full freedom -- in other words, constitutional democracy. We reaffirm these priniciples in the face of the actions of those sectors who want to change the direction of the democratic process. Those sectors do not seem to realize that the fall of the democratic process would sweep us into chaos, and this situations would serve only the interests of extremism.

We must not forget that dialogue is the essence of democracy. Only a broad-ranging and frank dialogue among civilians and the military can strengthen the democratic process. Only through dialogue can we achieve mature, responsible, and serious agreements, agreements which will necessarily be subjected to honest and humble self-criticism by all sectors.

Withing this framework, we must have faith in our institutional political system for finding solutions. This system must be brought up to date, and its procedures changed, but not perverted. Faith in the system of equilibrium, of the powers of the state, no matter how censurable it may be for some antidemocratic sectors is still better than the violence created by disagreements. Having regained sovereignty, the Bolivian people should not delude themselves with an idyllic democracy. Democracy involves conflicts, and their solutions must be found within the framework of the current judicial system. In other words, democracy and freedom are a permanent struggle which, like the infinite can never be reached, but they undoubtedly constitute the best system to meet the needs of men and society.

Let this be an opportunity to reaffirm our respect for the fulfillment of all international commitments and the just claims of the Bolivian people. Our actions in the field of international relations will be based on the principle of nonintervention and self-determination of people and in our sovereign and independent participation in the Nonaligned Movement. We will continue to support the process of Latin America integration. We will implement pragmatic actions, aware of the limitations imposed on us by reality.

Mr President, on behalf of my colleagues, I would like to thank you for your trust. We promise to redouble our efforts to cooperate with you in the difficult task of governing the country under the current situation. We also feel very proud to work with you, a legendary figure in the democratic and revolutionary struggle of our people and Latin America. I call upon God, the source of reason and justice, to guide our acts, acts which, above all, will be at the service of the Bolivian people. Thank you. [applause]

SILES SCORNS REPORTS ON GUERRILLA TRAINING IN CUBA

PY270300 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Aug 83 p 3

[Text] Santa Cruz, 24 Aug (EL DIARIO) -- The president has termed as "preposterous" press reports indicating that Bolivian nationals have presumably received guerrilla training in Cuba.

Siles Zuazo stressed that such reports are aimed at creating an atmosphere of confusion and are directed at destabilizing the democratic process. Ruling out all reports in this regard, Siles said that such reports are not true and, indeed, if any such guerrilla training exists, then "this training is presumably being abetted by our adversaries."

Siles added that Bolivia does not have a tradition of guerrilla activities and that all activities of this type "have been suppressed by the Armed Forces and by the people." These statements indirectly refer to past seditious actions that were headed by the Argentine-Cuban guerrilla Che Guevara, which ended in a complete failure and led to Guevara's death shortly thereafter.

FOREIGN MINISTRY TO ESTABLISH POLICY COUNCIL

PY271615 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Newly appointed Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado has noted that the government is about to establish a Foreign Ministry Policy Planning Council, which will be in charge of drafting Bolivia's foreign policy:

[Begin recording] I have decided to establish the Foreign Ministry's policy planning council, which will be the organization in charge of drafting our national foreign policy. Moreover, it is my objective to perfect the Foreign Ministry's procedural systems. [end recording]

NEW FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES IMF AID REQUEST

PY262311 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1828 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] La Paz, 26 Aug (EFE) -- Confirming the government's position regarding the IMF, new Finance Minister Fernando Baqtista Gamucio has said that "we will ask that international institution to take into account the social conditions in which Bolivia and Latin America find themselves."

Minister Gamucio said he is convinced the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development will soften their conditions, since the Latin American countries are making such a request.

Regarding the Bolivian foreign debt, Minister Gamucio announced that he will request "the stretching out of payments," because the country is at present unable to adequately meet its financial commitments due to its internal crisis.

Bolivia has undertaken intense negotiations with the IMF this year to obtain $300 million in freely available "expanded facilities."

An IMF mission will arrive in Bolivia next September to evaluate the request for "expanded facilities" and the implementation of the suggestions made to bring about the country's economic recovery. This information was provided by local financial sources.

Bolivian labor unions have opposed the implementation of a policy dictated by the IMF and have urged the government to break off negotiations with the IMF, but the authorities have rejected such a possibility.

AFP: COB LEADER PREDICTS FAILURE OF NEW CABINET

PY272339 Paris AFP in Spanish 1455 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] La Paz, 27 Aug (AFP) -- COB (Bolivian Labor Federation) Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo said today that the new ministerial team of President Hernan Siles Zuazo will not solve the serious problems that affect Bolivia. The leader added that the government has begun to yield to IMF dictates.

The only alternative for solving the commodity shortage problem and halting speculation and smuggling is the application of the comprehensive COB plan, he said. Three weeks ago, the COB submitted an emergency plan as a precondition to participate in the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

The plan included a food supply program, a moratorium on the foreign debt, the sale of gold reserves to obtain hard currency, government control on private banks and foreign trade, support for the newly formed state-owned transportation company, the implementation of worker comanagement in large private enterprises, and the cancellation of the oil and gas development contracts signed with the U.S. companies Occidental and Tesoro.

The president deemed inapplicable three of the conditions in the COB plan. Thus, he formed a new team which expressed its willingness to reach agreement with the IMF soon in order to obtain credits to face the current crisis.

According to Juan Lechin, the IMF has harmed all Latin American countries and, therefore, it would be foolish to follow IMF policies.

COB CALLS FOR PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS 30 AUGUST

PY261703 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpts] During an emergency meeting, the Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, decided to call for protest demonstrations throughout the entire country, to oppose the economic policies of President Siles Zuazo. The COB leaders, who met for two days, said that the current regime is subjected to IMF impositions.

The COB resolutions state that the demonstrations, to be held on 30 August, are also aimed at supporting the struggle in defense and support of the democratic process and against any destabilization efforts.

Union member Jose Maria Palacios reported that workers will demonstrate to demand from the government a positive answer to the COB emergency program. He also said that the matter concerning straight working hours for government employees has not yet been discussed and that this issue was left for a forthcoming COB Executive Committee meeting.

FIGUEIREDO TO STEP UP RECOVERY EXERCISES

PY270135 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Government spokesman Carlos Atila has emphasized that for the next 2 weeks the president will continue his medical treatment, especially in the afternoons. As of tomorrow, on medical advice, Figueriredo will start to take long walks, undergo massages, do light exercise, and perform respiratory exercises.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON RESUMPTION OF POWER

PY261718 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 1413 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Speech by Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo on resuming power after leave for heart surgery, at Planalto Palace, Brasilia -- live]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr Aureliano Chaves de Mendonca, vice president of the republic; your Excellency Deputy Flavio Marcilio, president of the Chamber of Deputies; Your Excellency Senator Nilo Coelho, president of the Federal Senate; Your Excellency Minister Cordeiro Guerra, president of the Supreme Federal Court; Your Excellencies Senators of State; Your Excellencies Ministers of State; Congressmen; ladies and gentlemen:

I am returning to the exercise of the presidency of the republic under the most profound crisis which is affecting the world and Brazilian society. A crisis in the economic and financial sectors which has been affecting us for almost 3 years. I am returning to the presidency of a country which is still experiencing the catastrophic effects of the floods which have devastated the south, and the drought which for 5 years has been demolishing vast regions of the northeastern part of the country.

I am returning to the presidency of the nation with an awareness of the tremendous worries afflicting the people and the government. I know that the difficulties affecting all sectors are great. But I am certain that we will be able to overcome all these difficulties with the help of all Brazilians. I trust in your cooperation and in the solidarity you are capable of expressing.

Democracy is a regime which requires a communion of ideas and action. All national matters do not deal only with this or that group, or with this or that social class or political organization. They are matters that concern the nation as a whole. Solutions to these problems must be the task of all. And the times we are living through today render this task imperative.

The disposition to fulfill this task requires a political willingness for dialogue among the most important sectors of our public life. My disposition for dialogue is not new. I have expressed my desire for dialogue more than once. And I still believe that harmony and general consensus will offer honorable prospects to find solutions to our economic, social, and political problems.

I return to the government with the certainty that current difficulties will be overcome in a short period. To achieve this I hope to have the support of the people, so as to live safe from the difficulties the country is experiencing.

I have been authorized by the party to conduct the presidential succession process. I will assume this responsibility with the firm objective of finding the solution which may be most appropriate for the country. The candidate that may be elected or chosen must be sufficiently capable of using the elements which my government will yet create to provide better days for the Brazilian people.

The candidate must have the appropriate credentials to continue with the task of the Brazilian people, that of establishing democracy in our country, and of guaranteeing peace, prosperity, and social justice.

The nation's sovereignty is untouchable. The honor of the nation must prevail over any advantage or concessions that may tarnish our national dignity. I will not permit economic or financial negotiations that may affect our moral authority.

We want to fulfill our financial commitments, but we will allow no impositions which may imply surrendering our autonomy.

I am particularly grateful to Deputy Flavio Marcilio, president of the Chamber of Deputies; to Senator Nilo Coelho, president of the Federal Senate; and to Minister Cordeiro Guerra, president of the Supreme Federal Court, for their presence at this ceremony.

I also appreciate the presence of the state governors. This is an eloquent testimony of the fact that democratic spirit and cordiality prevail in all political matters in Brazil.

I see with satisfaction the presence of all ministers of state, my direct aides in the serious government responsibilities. I want to particularly refer to Dr Aureliano Chaves, to his capacity and loyalty, and to the impartiality with which he conducted the government during my forced absence, faithefully carrying out all guidelines established by my government.

It is not manly to shirk one's destiny. I will not shirk mine. I will face the obstacles of the current situation with the certainty that I have the support of the Brazilian people.

My feelings on assuming the government again are confidence and optimism. And it is in that spirit that I will engage in the struggle of returning to the country the tranquility it needs for the prosperity and welfare of the Brazilian people who are so deserving. Thank you. [applause]

PMDB LEADER PRESENTS 'ECONOMIC CRISIS' PROGRAM

PY271157 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Aug 83 p 3

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Without once mentioning President Joao Figueiredo, Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes announced yesterday in the hall of the Chamber of Deputies, on behalf of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party], that his party will seek understanding with all the other parties, including the PDS [Social Democratic Party], to overcome the country's political and economic crisis. Guimaraes read a 14-page speech presenting an emergency program, which was prepared by the PMDB over the last 3 weeks, for coping with the economic crisis.

In his speech, Guimaraes repeated what he had been saying for the last few days: "I do not climb the ramp of power," he said, referring to the Planalto Palace front ramp. "I prefer to climb to this rostrum," he continued, "to renew the appeal for joint political negotiations to be conducted in Congress."

He levelled his strongest criticism at the IMF. "The Brazilian Government's duty is to defend the country's interests. For this reason, a moratorium should be declared and the servicing of the foreign debt should be suspended for 3 years," he affirmed, and received a big applause.

After explaining the 13 fundamental points in his party's proposal, Guimaraes stressed the need for normal foreign trade operations and a sound financial system. He criticized the interest rates which burden businessmen, and called for the government's withdrawal from the financial market.

Guimaraes affirmed that, in the understanding of the PMDB, economic priorities must be established through the discussion and approval of a program by Congress.

He did not forget to recite old PMDB principles, such as direct presidential elections on 15 November 1984 and doing away with the electoral college. In one passage of his speech, Guimaraes stated that the government does not have "democratic legitimacy," and he mentioned the installation of a National Constituent Assembly "on 15 November 1986, or earlier if possible," as the first point for negotiations.

Political proposals:

-- Direct election of the nation's president on 15 November 1984, as well as at all levels.
-- Installation of a National Constituent Assembly on 15 November 1986.
-- Granting of the right to vote to the illiterate.

Economic proposals:

-- Resumption of economic growth at a rate of at least 4 percent per year, and raising the employment level with the capital goods sector in the lead.
-- Raising average salaries in accordance with the average productivity increase of the economy, and reducing salary disparities between urban and rural sectors.
-- Subordinating the state sector of the economy to congressional control.
-- Restricting the state's access to the capital market to those cases involving productive investments which are self-liquidating.
-- Increasing state expenditures in the social field through programs of sanitation, education, housing, transport, and social security,
-- Instituting a fiscal reform to reduce income disparities and to increase participation of the states and municipalities in the distribution of tax revenues.
-- Eliminating bearer bonds.
-- Strengthening small- and medium-size enterprises, particularly in the rural sector.
-- Instituting an agrarian reform to distribute land to those who work on it.
-- Directing the economy toward the internal market.
-- Eliminating the dollar in internal debt and credit operations ("dedollarization").
-- Reducing subsidies gradually and selectively.
-- Breaking off agreements with the IMF.
-- Declaring a moratorium, suspending payment of interest and amortization of principal for a 3-year period; payment of foreign debts in a minimum period of 25 years.
-- Launching an emergency plan aimed at reducing oil consumption.
-- Closing down the Open Market, and eliminating exchange correction on public bonds.
-- Restricting imports selectively.
-- Imposing congressional control over public investments and over concession of incentive to private enterprises.

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS PINOCHET 'UNMOVABLE'

PY261253 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1126 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Madrid, 25 Aug (EFE) -- General Pinochet "is unmovable" from power until 1989, Chilean Foreign Minister Alex Schweitzer has told the Spanish magazine TIEMPO. In an interview held in Chile, the foreign minister said that Pinochet "is the president elected through the 1980 plebiscite on the Constitution to stay in power until 1989, and he will complete his term in office."

Schweitzer also referred to the conflict over the Beagle Channel and relations with Argentina, and said that "it is absolutely false" that Chile assisted Great Britain during the Malvinas war. The Chilean foreign minister added that "Chile never had British bases or granted facilities for British troop operations during the armed conflict in the Malvinas."

The minister referred to the recent days of national protest held in his country against the military junta as "a campaign orchestrated from abroad," adding that "the Chileans are somewhat selfish and always expect more, without realizing that the world is experiencing a recession."

SANTIAGO POLICE ARREST MIR GROUP TERRORISTS

PY261358 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] The Santiago police have arrested members of a MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] group. Among other things, the terrorists rented cars and later [word indistinct] under false names to sell them.

The leader of the terrorists has been identified as (Roberto Rene Pepe Contreras), a 30-year-old who carried a MIR membership card. He was arrested at the Santiago municipal car depot when he was about to take out a car that belongs to the 8th region rent-a-car office branch. His accomplices have been identified as: (Jorge Arturo Medina Beltran), (Rosemarie Pozo Vega), (Carlos Patricio Loyola Fuentes), and (Santiago Eduardo Bachman Bachman). All of them and the cars that were recovered were placed at the disposal of the Santiago District Criminal Court

GOVERNMENT MEETS ON CRISIS, LIFTS EMERGENCY

Jarpa Meets With Opposition

PY261905 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0323 GMT 26 Aug 83

[By Albino Mallo]

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 25 Aug (EFE) -- Through the mediation of the Catholic Church, Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa and representatives of the opposition Democratic Alliance tonight held their first meeting. Hosting the meeting, which lasted almost 2 hours, was Santiago Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno. Also present at the meeting which was held at the Archbishop's house were the diocese vicars general, Sergio Valech and Juan de Costro.

According to Sergio Onofre Jarpa the meeting was "useful and interesting," and at the end of it he said that there will be other meetings.

Jarpa, who was very sparing in words, limited himself to admit only that they had discussed the proposals included in a statement that the Democratic Alliance had issued 24 hours earlier, but he noted that they did not discuss the president's resignation, which had been requested.

However, Gabriel Valdes, the former foreign minister during the Edurdo Frei government who attended the meeting in his capacity as Christian Democratic Party [PDC] representative, was more explicit in this regard. Valdes noted that they "had discussed the serious political and moral crisis the country is experiencing" and that they reasserted to the interior minister the coalition's proposal aimed at achieving the democratization of Chile. He added that the interior minister said that he would study all the proposals.

Valdes said he was optimistic "since we were able to openly discuss all our proposals." He added that "I am always confident about any dialogue," but he warned that "its result will only be seen in the future."

Regarding the fifth national day of protest that the Democratic Alliance has announced for 8 September, Valdes noted that the protest was still on; he confirmed the date; and he said that he hoped that all Chileans will uphold the peaceful nature of the protest.

Also present at the meeting were representatives of the three political groups that make up the Democratic Alliance. They are Hugo Zepeda, representing the republican right; Enrique Silva, representing the Radicals; and Luis Bossay, representing the Social Democrats; while Ramon Silva, member of the Socialist Party, attended the meeting on his own and not as an official representative of the sector.

Some of the proposals that the Democratic Alliance made to the government are the immediate repeal of the state of emergency, of temporary constitutional Article No 24 which grants special powers to the president, and of the electoral law; and the recognition of political parties.

The coalition also requests the return of all exiles, freedom of the press and free access to the mass media, the right to hold meetings, the full investigation of the violent incidents that took place during the fourth national day of protest on 11 and 12 August, and the reinstatement of copper workers.

Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa has also held separate meetings with Jorge Lavandero, President of the PRODEN [National Development Project] opposition group, with union leader Rodolfo Seguel, and with the Chilean Human Rights Commission.

Debate on Emergency Extension

PY262005 Paris AFP in Spanish 1838 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 26 Aug (AFP) -- Santiago political sources today reported that within a few hours the government of General Augusto Pinochet must decide whether or not to lift the exceptional laws and the state of emergency which have been in force for 10 years and which restrict public freedoms in Chile.

The lifting of these measures, under which the military has the powers of a state of siege, was proposed by the Democratic Alliance, an opposition coalition, in the talks it held with the government on Thursday night.

The dialogue, which according to some press reports was an impossible task, began at the house of Santiago Archbhishop Monsignor Juan Francisco Fresno, where alliance leaders met with Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa.

The opposition coalition, which is made up of rightist republicans, Christian Democrats, Radicals, Social Democrats, and Socialists, has asked for the resignation of Pinochet and for his replacement by a transition regime that should restore political normalcy in 18 months. However, according to Interior Minister Jarpa, those demands were not addressed during this first meeting. Jarpa made this statement upon leaving the archbishop's house on his way to a meeting with the president and the generals corps.

The opposition coalition made nine urgent proposals designed for reaching national pacification, which is the aspiration of the Chilean people and which would permit a process of institutional changes. The first of these proposals was an immediate halt to the state of emergency, a demand that the Catholic Church has also made recently.

The state of emergency was enforced in Chile by the government junta after the overthrow of Socialist President Salvador Allende's civilian regime on 11 September 1973. The state of emergency empowers the executive branch and the military leadership to restrict freedom of assembly, freedom of movement, freedom of expression and other constitutional guarantees.

According to the Constitution that was issued by General Pinochet 3 years ago and which extended his term until 1989, the state of emergency must be reimposed through a decree every 90 days, and the last time it was reimposed was on 30 May.

Consequently, since the 90-day deadline expires this weekend the government must decide within a few hours whether to comply with the demands expressed by the opposition of whether to continue to uphold the severe restrictions, as it has done in an uninterrupted manner since 1973.

Political sources close to the meeting that took place Thursday told AFP that Minister Jarpa expressed to alliance leaders a positive willingness to grant this demand. On these demands, Minister Jarpa said only that the meeting was very useful and that there would be a new meeting where the dialogue would continue.

State of Emergency Lifted

PY262319 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] The government has decided not to resume the state of emergency. This information was released a few minutes ago by the under secretary of the Interior Ministry at Moneda Palace.

More on Ending State of Emergency

PY270019 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2332 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] A high government source has just reported that the state of emergency, which had to be extended on this date, has not been extended. This was confirmed by the under secretary of the Interior Ministry, (German Garberich), when he talked to the press: [Begin recording] No, the state of emergency has not been extended.

[Question] What does the state of emergency imply? What conditions are the country subject to when the state of emergency is in force and when it is not in force?

[Answer] This means that as of now the state of emergency is no longer in force and that normal rules now apply.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] This is another step along the course the government is taking by its decisions.

[Question] Does this mean that there will be freedom to hold public meetings?

[Answer] It means that all those activities which were suspended under the state of emergency are now permitted, such as holding meetings subject to the legal rules applying to the right of assembly. [end recording]

We repeat: The state of emergency, which was supposed to be extended today, has not been extended, as the undersecretary of the Interior Ministry has just reported.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 2356 GMT on 26 August, reporting on the lifting of the state of emergency, adds: "However, transitory Article 24, which invests the chief of state with discretional powers to adopt measures under given circumstances without resorting to the judiciary, will reportedly continue in force."]

PDC Members Withdraw From PRODEN

PY270023 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2144 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 26 Aug (EFE) -- The Christian Democratic [PDC] members of PRODEN [National Development Project] decided today to withdraw from the opposition group. PDC members Jorge Lavandero, Carlos Depre, Jose Monares, and Sergio Paz were among the PRODEN leaders. PRODEN President Jorge Lavandero is the only PDC member who will remain in PRODEN.

According to sources close to the PDC members, the three members withdrew due to decisions adopted by the PRODEN Executive Board, which is presided over by former Foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes. The PDC charged PRODEN with having begun talks with Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa and with having called a meeting for 4 September without reporting the decisions to the leaders of the PDC. PRODEN is made up of politicians and union leaders from all parties except the Communist Party.

EFE 27 Aug Wrap-Up

PY271437 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0916 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 27 Aug (EFE) -- The announcement of the Chilean Government that the state of emergency will end came just a few hours after the Christian Democrats withdrew their support from PRODEN (National Development Project) for the public rally authorized for September 4.

Although these facts, in themselves, are not related, recent developments in this country can be linked together in that, on the one hand, the opposition Democratic Alliance can attest that just 24 hours after meeting with the interior minister, Sergio Onofre Jarpa, he took the steps desired to comply with the first of the nine requests made in their dialogue.

On the other hand, the Christian Democrats withdrew their support for a public rally called by PRODEN barely 24 hours after the latter had claimed to be an "arm" of the Democratic Alliance.

The consequences of the government's decision had their first impact today when the headquarters of the Fifth Region lifted the traffic restrictions that had controlled Valparaiso Province. More effects will be seen on Monday, August 29, the day on which the 90-day legal term of the state of emergency will expire.

The Christian Democrat decision immediately prompted a rift in the PRODEN, from which Christian Democrat former deputies Carlos Dupre, Sergio Paez, and Jose Monares have already withdrawn. Meanwhile, the president of the organization, former Senator Jorge Lavandro, also a Christian Democrat, remained in his position because, as he said, I do not wish to be a "Captain Araya." However, he announced that for considerations of party solidarity he would not participate in the public rally on September 4, for which he personally had requested the government's permission.

Lavandro openly criticized the president of his party, Gabriel Valdes, commenting that "it is a mistake not to take advantage of the opportunity which the people have won with great sacrifice and which they deserve."

Within the PRODEN many still want to hold the rally even though the organizers will now have to be members of other parties such as Social Democrat Diego Portagles, Rightist Republican Engelberto Frias, and union leader Leon Vilarin.

On the other hand, the Democratic Alliance, in which the Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Rightist Republicans, Radicals, and Socialists are united, continues with its plans to hold, on September 8, the fifth national day of protest.

Concerning this event Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa, just before leaving for Argentina to bid farewell to the government after 5 years as Chilean ambassador, said that it "is decidedly negative that they continue calling these protests and I hope that they do not go on in this fashion since it does not lead to a solution of our problems, but rather to deaths and mourning." The interior minister also spoke about the meeting he held with the representatives of the Democratic Alliance in the home of Santiago Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno.

Speaking about the nine proposals of the opposition he said that "many of the points of the proposals were already in the plans of the government for resolution, and the rest are under study, so these are no motives for a confrontation."

With the first proposal granted, the opposition considers that the second must also be granted, that is, the abrogation of Article 24 of the Constitution which grants certain discretionary powers that allow the chief of state to create, in a sense, a form of undeclared state of emergency.

Of the other proposals, the drawing up of the electoral law and recognition of political parties are already in the package of laws that the Council of State is going to study. As for the return of exiles, the interior minister admitted that they could return en masse if a single list of those whom the government will not allow to return is issued.

It is considered, by both government and opposition supporters, that requests for greater information, for the editing of new publications, and for authorizing meetings, such as that requested by the PRODEN for September 4, are feasible.

Of the remaining two proposals, one is related to the investigation of the protest of August 11 and is already underway and the other, which calls for the rehiring of copper workers and labor leaders, can be resolved if, according to the labor leaders themselves, there is a favorable court ruling.

Onofre Jarpa Cites Proposals

PY271508 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Aug 83

[From the "Government House News" by Graciela Contreras]

[Text] The chief executive has signed a supreme decree appointing current Secretary General of Government Alfonso Marquez de la Plata as acting interior minister in view of Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa's impending trip to Buenos Aires, where he served as ambassador for 5 years.

Meanwhile, speaking at a meeting with business and labor sectors in Valparaiso, Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa stressed that over the next few days the government will submit for the consideration of the Council of State the statute on political parties, the law on elections and voter registration lists, a law on the establishment and organization of an electoral court, and finally a law dealing with the organization and operation of a national congress which would make it possible to elect a congress before the date set for it in the transitory articles of the Constitution. Sergio Onofre Jarpa added that it will be necessary to call a plebiscite on the latter issue and that he was sure that it would be approved.

Concerning the criticisms concerning the current events the nation is going through and the days of national protest, the interior minister emphasized that it is the will of both the president and the government to pursue the current plan because, he said, we are sure that we are fulfilling the desires of the majority of the people and we will not [words indistinct] from this course by the maneuvers of certain political groups which do not represent the position of the citizenry.

The minister also said that an effort will be made to reactivate every sector of the economy in order to create thousands of new job opportunities, [words indistinct] and to build up an infrastructure which is needed in the Fifth Region [the Valparaiso area] and in the whole country as well. This would include an expansion of the railroad network, canals and improvement of port facilities. He added that the health of the population must also be taken care of.

More Jarpa Remarks

PY271531 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0413 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Valparaiso, 26 Aug (EFE) -- Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa today said in this city, the second largest of the country, that he hoped Chileans will give him some credit and would have some patience with regard to his administration.

The interior minister stressed that in this dialogue which is taking place, no one is giving up anything and it is only a matter of clearly defining positions in order to overcome the current situation of the country. Therefore, he feels that the opposition's call for a new day of national protest on 8 September was very negative.

Jarpa reaffirmed that the government's clear-cut decision is to move toward a process that would lead to full democracy. He also said that public servants who fail in the performance of their duties will be removed and that the students are expected to study. He warned that "no more rampages and actions alien to their specific duties will be allowed."

The interior minister will travel to Buenos Aires on Monday to bid farewell to the Argentine Government after 5 years as Chilean ambassador to that country.

PRODEN Suspends 4 Sep Protest

PY271835 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1815 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 27 Aug (EFE) -- PRODEN (National Development Project) leader Jose Monares, a former deputy, reported today that PRODEN has called off the demonstration scheduled for 4 September. The Christian Democratic Party had noted that it is inopportune to hold a demonstration of that nature on 4 September. This position had caused some disagreement within PRODEN.

However, the day of national protest sponsored by the Democratic Alliance -- which groups the democratic opposition sectors -- to be held on 8 September, is still planned. This information was reported at noon today by Radio Cooperativa.

New Government Returnee List

PY271906 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Aug 83

[From "Government House News" by Graciela Contreras]

[Text] The government released at noon today a new list of exiles who can return to Chile. This time the list includes 1,160 names. This information was released by Francisco Hernandez, spokesman of the Interior Ministry. He pointed out that the list includes Julio Donoso Larrain, Humberto Elgueta, Anibal Palma, and Jose Antonio Viera Gallo.

[Begin Hernandez recording] As you know, at this stage of political relaxation, the government has been stepping up quite a bit, I would say, the issuance of lists of exiles who can now return to the country. The number of persons allowed to return has been increasing in each list, and this time we would like to release a list that includes 1,160 names of persons who can now return to the country. Among these persons are Julio Donoso Larrain, Humberto Elgueta, leader of the professors' confederation, Anibal Palma, and Jose Antonio Viera Gallo. These are some of the names. It is quite impossible to read the whole list because it is too long. I will later (?give) you the list to take with you.

[Question] [Words indistinct] are those who cannot return?

[Answer] Yes, that is true, but there is something very important that I am sure you will all understand.

To draw up a list of those who cannot return is a very long and meticulous task, and while we are doing this we cannot keep waiting people who are entitled to come back. In order to speed up the return of those who are authorized, we have decided to issue lists of those who can return while the list of those who cannot is being prepared. I repeat that the latter list is being studied meticulously and that it takes time. Therefore, I stress that the people cannot be kept waiting outside the country when we know that they want to come back to Chile. That is why we have decided not only to speed up the issuance of lists but also to increase the number of persons in each of them, as you can see. [end recording]

Jarpa Press Comments

PY272152 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Aug 83

[From "Government House News" by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpts] This morning Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa held a number of meetings before leaving for the airport to board a plane for Buenos Aires. The minister held a lengthy talk with Secretary General of Government Alfonso Marquez de la Plata, who took over as acting interior minister. Minister Jarpa then talked to the press and outlined the latest steps taken by his ministry. This is what he said:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Minister, after the short time that you have been handling the political affairs of this country, could you make an analysis of the developments?

[Jarpa] Well, I feel that we are doing fine, that the objectives outlined by the president of the nation are being fulfilled, and that over the next few days Mr Alfonso Marquez de la Plata will be implementing measures that will continue to fulfill these objectives.

[Question] Do you believe that the world's opinion of Chile has improved?

[Jarpa] In what sense?

[Question] After all the political measures that have been implemented... [minister interrupts journalist]

[Jarpa] Look here, we do not tolerate foreign interference in Chile's domestic affairs; therefore, these campaigns are being oraganized to present a distorted view of our nation. We totally reject these campaigns and we have not promulgated domestic measures which could benefit Chile because of these campaigns. Thus, we are not greatly concerned about these campaigns, whether they go on or stop. We Chileans do things for ourselves and not to please foreigners.

[Question] Mr Minister, the government has authorized a rally to take place on 4 September, but it appears that it will not take place. What are your feelings about this?

[Jarpa] I am very sorry that it failed because I do not really see how we can understand each other if first they ask us to authorize a meeting, then they do not make use of this authorization, and finally they want to resort to other means, which are not quite aboveboard, to express their opinions. I do not see why it should fail because they would have had all the freedom they need to express their ideas.

[Question] Mr Minister, they said this morning that they would not hold this demonstration or rally. Will the government give them another authorization if they ask for it?

[Jarpa] I do not see why not.

[Question] Mr Minister, are you already studying the list of petitions submitted by the Democratic Alliance?

[Jarpa] Yes, several of the proposals have been under study before and some of them have already been fulfilled. Therefore, I see no reason why we cannot continue studying jointly with them the fulfillment of the remaining petitions.

[Question] Does that mean that all the petitions will be fulfilled?

[Jarpa] I believe that yes, they can be fulfilled.

[Question] Is there any deadline for this?

[Jarpa] No, there are no deadlines.

[Question] What about the abrogation of transitory Article No 24?

[Jarpa] The Constitution sets forth certain rules and regulations which cannot be abrogated. The only thing that can be done is stop applying them.

[Question] Could you clarify a little bit more the recently announced decision to lift the state of emergency?

[Jarpa] Well, the president of the nation has been planning to let the state of emergency expire. The decision had already been made. Thus, the state of emergency was not renewed at this time.

[Question] What does this mean in practice?

[Jarpa] It means that the state of emergency is no longer considered necessary, because the situation in our country is far more normal than external sources have suggested.

[Question] However, Mr Minister, a declaration that the internal peace is in jeopardy is still in force. Will the government extend this measure?

[Jarpa] That issue will be studied at the proper time.

[Question] Are military intendants likely to be changed in the near future?

[Jarpa] The matter is not yet under consideration. As you know, intendants are not supposed to stay in their posts for the rest of their lives. There are always changes. [end recording]

BRIEFS

JANUARY-JULY IMPORTS, EXPORTS -- The Central Bank has reported that the balance of trade currently totals $706 million, adding that exports totalled $2.24 billion and imports amounted to $1.53 billion during the first 7 months of 1983. [Excerpt] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Aug 83 PY]

AMNESTIED GUERRILLAS OCCUPY MEXICAN EMBASSY

Police Minimize Occupation

PA260450 Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Bogota, 25 Aug (AFP) -- General Jorge Guerrero, commander of the Bogota police, considers unimportant the "occupation" of the Mexican Embassy in Bogota, which was carried out peacefully by several dozen Colombian guerrillas who had been amnestied. According to the officer, the Mexican Embassy secretariat reported to him that the occupants were estimated to number 90, including numerous women, and that for the moment the embassy did not need any help from the police.

Gen Guerrero asserted that his command has not ordered any detachment to the embassy, which is located in the northern part of the city. However, newsmen at the scene noted a discreet watch by plainclothesmen around the embassy.

According to the officer, these are the same amnestied guerrillas who carry out demonstrations downtown every Thursday. Today they decided to head for the Mexican Embassy to call attention to their demands. Residents who saw the group entering the building reported that no incidents occurred and that even the policeman on watch at the door was left unmolested.

Ambassador Maria Antonieta Sanchez is continuing talks with the former rebels, who are demanding a dialogue with the Colombian Government to solve the problems they are experiencing in efforts to begin a normal life. They are also demanding that plans for rehabilitation of the areas affected by violence be speeded up.

Two hours after the "seizure," six embassy officials left the building but refused to give the press any information.

No Asylum Petition to Mexico

FL262234 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2120 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations announced this afternoon that the 44 former guerrillas who yesterday peacefully occupied the Mexican Embassy in Bogota have not formally asked for political asylum in this country.

The Foreign Secretariat referred to press statements which said that former Colombian Foreign Minister Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa, on leaving the embassy in Bogota last night, had said he was sending a formal petition for political asylum for the former guerrillas who had been given amnesty.

Vasquez Carrizosa met with five of the former guerrillas and later gave their demands to Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo. Their demands were for a direct dialogue with President Belisario Betancur to have him guarantee the return of amnestied persons to civilian life, the dissolution of the Death to Kidnappers Movement, and a truce for the combatants.

The Mexican Foreign Ministry stressed that up to the moment they had not received any petition for political asylum for the former guerrillas and said that the situation in the Mexican Embassy in Bogota was quiet.

Former Guerrillas Leave Embassy

PA270320 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0305 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota, 26 Aug (AFP) -- The 44 former guerrillas who had taken refuge in the Mexican Embassy in Bogota on Thursday left the embassy at approximately 0340 GMT. The former guerrillas left the embassy after Colombian President Belisario Betancur promised to solve the problems that those who have accepted amnesty are facing. The 37 men and 7 women who were in the embassy for 40 hours did not make any statements as they left the embassy building.

BETANCUR PRAISES CONTADORA, MEXICAN TIES

PA281940 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1720 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota, 28 Aug (EFE) -- According to Colombian President Belisario Betancur, the Contadora Group is not only an invitation to reflection on behalf of peace but it is also making a realistic contribution.

In a message addressed to Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid after dedicating the Chingaza Hydroelectric Plant -- the biggest in Latin America -- Betancur said that aid from Mexican engineers in constructing this plant is contributing to the two nations' fraternity.

According to Betancur, "Chingaza, Mr President, is testimony of everything that Mexico and Colombia can do together. It is also a preamble to the use of Colombia's hydroelectric potential for Mexico and Central America, through the electrical network among these nations."

Betancur added that "a contribution will thus be made to Central America's process of economic and social development, and this, too, is part of the Contadora Group's actions."

The Chingaza hydroelectric plant is owned by the Bogota Aqueduct Enterprise. It is the biggest of its kind in Latin America and will supply 12 million cubic meters of water per day to 10 million people. The Mexican firm ICA began building the plant in 1972. The project cost 27.54 billion pesos ($33.75 million).

MINISTER DENIES PAYMENT FROM DRUG TRAFFICKER

PA271230 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota -- Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla today denied that he received a check for 1 million pesos from drug trafficker Evaristo Porras. Lara Bonilla explained at a news conference that he endorsed the check, which should have been issued to his brother Jorge instead of him, for the sale of chemical reactors to Evaristo Porras. The sale was made by the company that his brother Jorge owns in partnership with Roberto Bahamon.

BRIEFS

EXTERNAL DEBT -- Bogota -- According to Finance Minister Edgar Gutierrez Castro, the country's total external debt amounts to $9.5 billion. Of this amount, $6.5 billion is public debt and $3 billion private debt. [Text] [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Aug 83 PA]

'MASSIVE SUPPORT' FOR NATIONAL PROTEST REPORTED

PY261736 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0850 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Aug (EFE) -- Those who support a "solution" within the regime itself may have gained strength as a result of the day of protest against the regime that was held on Thursday in Montevideo. On the occasion of the 158th anniversary of the declaration of independence, the legalized political parties and the Peace and Justice Service (SERPAJ), called for a peaceful day of protest under the slogan "For Democracy and Freedom."

The protest, which was sponsored by political parties, was widely supported and many households in Montevideo participated. For half an hour houses throughout Montevideo lights were turned off and the beating of pans was heard from windows, from balconies, and even in the streets. The police took no action and were not even seen.

However, police arrested 100 people in another demonstration that was held the same day, under the slogan "For a Revolutionary Socialism," and which had little support. An official communique is expected regarding these arrests.

But while the demonstration "For Democracy and Freedom" had massive support with blackouts and the beating of pans, the other more violent demonstration was only supported by about a couple hundred youths. These demonstrators shouted against the military and expressed their support "for the people" and for political prisoners just a few meters from Montevideo's main jail, where people such as General Liber Seregni are under arrest. The demonstrators shouted "here they are, here they are, the ones who ruined the nation."

Liber Seregni was a candidate for the "wide front", a leftist group, during the last democratic elections held in 1971.

But overall, except for some minor incidents and some arrests, the demonstrations were basically peaceful and they were undoubtedly a "test" for the opposition parties that are striving for a return of democracy and that have support within the Armed Forces. According to what reliable sources told EFE, the junta of commanders is promoting a basic agreement with political parties to establish a democratization plan leading to the general elections scheduled for 1984.

One Shot; Repression Noted

PY261805 Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 26 Aug (AFP) -- Reliable sources reported here today that an 18-year-old youth was shot in the stomach during the protest demonstrations that were held throughout Montevideo at the end of the peaceful, but noisy, pan beating demonstration carried out by the people yesterday. However, the reports disagree on where the shot came from. The youth in question noted that he was shot during a demonstration, but he was unable to identify the person who perpetrated the attack. Other sources noted that the person who shot the youth was a neighbor who was being intimidated by demonstrators, about 100 of them, for refusing to turn off the lights in his house.

The police did not intervene in some of the street demonstrations that were held by some 100 or 200 persons who walked through several neighborhoods and also along Montevideo's main avenue, 18 de Julio. However, it was learned that at least one demonstration, the one held in the Cordon neighborhood, was violently repressed. So far, there have been no reports of arrests.

Police Arrest 225

PY271825 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] According to an official report that has been issued by the Montevideo Police Department, of the 225 persons who were arrested on the evening of 25 August at 18 de Julio Avenue, 48 persons have been placed at the disposal of the executive branch and are facing possible indictment. The police communique reports that these persons have been placed at the disposal of the executive branch in keeping with the present security measures.

The communique also reports that 168 men, 40 women, and 17 minors were arrested. Moreover, it notes that the police have identified 69 vehicles that took part in a caravan. According to reports, these cars were involved in several traffic violations.

The police department has officially reported that house lights were turned off in several Montevideo neighborhoods while many people beat pans. The communique adds that, in the Cerro Norte area, a group of people threw stones at a house because the owner refused to join the demonstration. The house was damaged in the attack, and the owner shot at the aggressors. (Julio Ruben Dominguez Danuz) was hit in the thigh, the intestines, and the bladder. The police report notes that (Dominguez) is recovering from his wounds at the Hospital de Clinicas.

It was also reported that 173 persons were arrested near the Peace and Justice Service (SERPAJ) headquarters. The report adds that despite police warnings, groups of about 30 to 40 persons gathered near the SERPAJ headquarters. The police released the 103 men and 70 women after having registered them.

'EXTRAOFFICIAL' MILITARY-POLITICAL DIALOGUE

PY271819 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0407 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Aug (EFE) -- High Uruguayan military leaders and directors of the three legalized political parties have started a new dialogue in an extraofficial form, according to reports published today in the Montevideo press. The morning newspaper EL PAIS reports that the "preliminary contacts" took place under "conditions of strict secrecy," and adds that in the last few weeks several meetings have taken place.

According to the report, these meetings are considered to be of a purely preliminary nature and have the sole objective of hearing the positions of each party.

The results have so far been "positive," according to EL PAIS, which indicates that the protagonists "consider it fundamental to maintain secrecy concerning these efforts so as to avoid expectations which could subvert the dialogue."

The negotiations between the military and the three parties, the White or National Party, the Colorado Party, and the Civic Union, were suspended almost a month ago when the political parties decided to withdraw because they felt that the minimal conditions for the reform of the Constitution were not being met.

Thereafter, the government established a total blackout on political issues and a mediation was begun by the Catholic Church which, officially, was well received by the authorities.

NAVY SEIZES, HOLDS SEVEN U.S. SHRIMP BOATS

PA282314 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 27 Aug 83 pp 1, 12A

[Text] Tampico, Tamaulipas -- In an unprecedented action, a Mexican Navy ship dealt a new blow to fishing piracy by seizing seven U.S. shrimp boats in national waters.

The shrimp boats tried to resist but were ordered to stop their engines or suffer the consequences.

In this way, the plunder encouraged by the ridiculous fines applied to violators of the law was prevented.

The coast guard vessel, GHO 3 "Baranda," commanded by Corvette Captain Jose Santiago Valdez Alvarez, and its helicopter were patrolling the zone.

The coast guard vessel and the helicopter established communication when the seven shrimp boats were sighted, and they immediately proceeded to seize them. The crews signed documents admitting they had been fishing illegally.

The names of the boats and their captains are: "Wilderness," Captain Gonzalo de la Lastra; "Captain Contoy," Captain Ramon Barroso Perez; "Captain Cricket," Captain Raul Jimenez Enriquez; "Barbados," Captain Tomas R. Barrera; "Alice R.," Captain Roger Enderson; "A Master," Captain Joy Harrington; and "Easy Rider," Captain Jack Walker.

The seized boats are being guarded by the Navy in Tampico. The harbor master's office has sent the captains to the local fisheries office, where they will be fined.

$11.4 BILLION OF FOREIGN DEBT RESCHEDULED

FL262318 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2015 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 26 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico rescheduled $11.4 billion of its short-term foreign debt in New York today, the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit announced. The new debt will fall due in 1990. The amount renegotiated represents almost 60 percent of Mexico's $20 billion short-term foreign debt.

COSTA RICA'S DEBT TO BE NEGOTIATED IN SEPTEMBER

FL262300 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2010 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Mexico, 26 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The rescheduling of Costa Rica's debt to Mexico, which amounts to $30 million, will be negotiated next month, Federico Bargas Peralta, Costa Rican finance minister, said today.

Interviewed just prior to his departure following a 48-hour official visit to Mexico, the Costa Rican minister explained that his country's debt would be paid at the London market interest rate, which fluctuates from 8.5 to 10.5 percent.

He was grateful for President Miguel de la Madrid's accommodation to reschedule Costa Rica's debt to Mexico. We are grateful for the opportunity to refinance the oil-sales debt to Mexico, the minister said. He also thanked his Mexican counterpart, Jesus Silva Herzog, for his kind attention.

COSTA RICA

STONE TO ARRIVE 29 AUG FOR TALKS WITH FMLN-FDR

PA262349 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2301 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] San Jose, 26 Aug (DPA) — Richard Stone, the U.S. President's special envoy to Central America, will meet with leaders of the Salvadoran guerrillas on Tuesday in San Jose.

This story is carried by the Costa Rican newspapers today in great detail. The reports say that Ruben Zamora and Guillermo Ungo, of the FMLN-FDR, are the guerrilla representatives who will meet with Stone. Stone is to arrive on Monday. This will be Stone's fourth visit to Costa Rica, and while here he will again meet with President Monge.

GOVERNMENT PREPARING FOR KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL

PA270355 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] The preparations for the work that our country is to carry out with the commission headed by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger began this afternoon at the presidency. With the arrival in Costa Rica of (Alan Spurt), the commission's adviser on economic and financial affairs, the government has started its preparation of the agenda that will be discussed during the meeting to be held here next month with Kissinger and his group.

According to the present schedule, Kissinger should arrive in Costa Rica during the third week of September to meet with government officials and representatives of the private sector. They will analyze the country's needs in terms of investment and support of development programs started as part of the Caribbean Basin Initiative, which was recently approved by the U.S. Congress.

The arrival of Kissinger's commission in the country will open new prospects for the economic reactivation and cooperation that have been carried out by the government during the first 19 months. It is felt that the commission's support will represent new investment and aid to the country and allow it to carry out a series of projects that will foster a revitalization of the production sector and generate new sources of employment.

Kissinger was appointed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to handle Central American affairs, including the implementation of the Caribbean Basin Initiative. He will start a tour of the region next month.

During the meeting held today with his financial adviser, the government began to define the areas where our country requires more support to overcome the crisis.

5,000 CUBAN REFUGEES REPORTEDLY TO ARRIVE

PA270405 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon has reported that at least 5,000 more Cubans are to enter the country en route to the United States. So far this year, 4,000 Caribbeans who have relatives in the United States have entered our country.

For the time being, no visas are being granted because of the irregularities that have been observed in the sale of these visas. However, the 5,000 Cubans had been granted permits before the Immigration Directorate decided to take this measure.

The Caribbeans receive money from their relatives in the United States so they can live in Costa Rica until the U.S. Embassy grants them a visa.

HAVANA ON GUARD COLLABORATION WITH ANTI-SANDINISTS

PA270055 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Johnny Campos, Costa Rican deputy minister of public security, has announced that an investigation has been ordered into the alleged involvement of Civil Guard officers with anti-Sandinist counterrevolutionary forces. Four top Civil Guard officers have been accused of allowing arms to be smuggled to Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, whose camps are in Costa Rican territory.

Radio Monumental has asked for an exhaustive investigation, not only of the Public Security Ministry, but also of the ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior. Such accusations, Radio Monumental says, serve only to cast doubt on the much-talked-about neutrality of President Luis Alberto Monge toward Nicaragua.

CUT TO ACCUSE GOVERNMENT OF REPRESSION

PA270430 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] The United Worker's Federation, CUT, a communist-oriented organization, will accuse the government, before international organizations, of repressing workers.

CUT Vice President Marielo Girald pointed out that the executive branch has sent communiques to public workers threatening them with severe measures if they decree strikes, and is violating union liberties that have been established in international agreements.

He pointed out that the right to strike is not only allowed in these agreements, but also in Pope John Paul II's encyclical concerning human labor.

He concluded by noting that these accusations against the government will be presented at the ILO, The Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the organization that grants the Nobel peace prizes, which has its headquarters in Norway.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA ASKS STONE TO DELAY TALKS WITH REBELS

PA262333 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2240 GMT 26 Aug 83

[By Robert Block]

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- The president of El Salvador, Alvaro Magana, said today that U.S. special envoy Richard Stone should postpone his second round of talks with Salvadoran guerrillas until the country's Peace Commission has its first meeting with rebel representatives.

Magana told REUTERS in an interview that the three-member commission, which is trying to end the civil war and persuade the rebels to participate in the democratic process, would meet with representatives of the guerrillas in a few weeks.

The disclosure of the first planned meeting between the commission and the rebels was overshadowed by a report from Washington that Stone -- who met with a rebel representative for the first time last month -- would travel to Central America next week to hold new talks with guerrilla representatives.

Reliable sources in San Jose, Costa Rica, said yesterday that Stone was expected to arrive on either Tuesday or Wednesday and to hold talks with representatives of the two Salvadoran rebel factions. "I believe Stone should wait to see what follows the attempt to hold a meeting between the Peace Commission and the guerrilla members," Magana said.

The commission established contact with the rebels last month by letter and through intermediaries, but the meeting -- which is in its final phase of preparation -- would be the first face-to-face contact between the two parties.

Magana said he believed that the commission had more contacts with the representatives of the different rebel factions than did Stone, and since an end to the war depends on holding talks with most of the five guerrilla groups, "it is justifiable for Stone to wait."

Magana added that one of the groups which has established contact with the commission indicated that they would not open direct talks until the U.S. fleet -- sent by U.S. President Ronald Reagan as a show of force in Central America -- left the region.

Magana said that the commission's main responsibility is to try to persuade the guerrillas to participate in the general elections that are expected some time next year. It is thought that the commission would seek to establish the conditions for the rebels' participation during its first meeting with them.

The rebels have previously stated that elections are not the key to solving the economic, social, and political injustices which -- they claim -- forced them to take up weapons almost 4 years ago.

Magana noted that the guerrillas have not specifically mentioned their wish to participate in the elections during their indirect contacts with the commission, but added that he considers them to be moving toward that goal. "Their initiative to communicate with the Peace Commission, knowing that the commission will specifically work on the elections, might represent a change in their attitude," Magana said. Political sources close to the leftists nevertheless maintain that although the guerrillas might want to talk about their participation in the elections, this does not necessarily mean they are thinking about the elections planned for next year.

PEACE COMMISSION PRESIDENT ON DIALOGUE WITH REBELS

PA270142 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 26 Aug 83 pp 3, 46

[Excerpts] "In a few days we will meet directly with the subversive leaders of the FDR-FMLN in an undetermined Latin American country. This will represent the first step to learn at firsthand what the extreme left proposes."

Francisco Quinonez, president of the Peace Commission, explained that the term "dialogue" with the guerrillas should never be mistaken for the term "negotiation." Nothing will be negotiated in these meetings. They will serve only as a forum for discussing the possibility that the opposition groups might join the democratic process in the country, he pointed out during an interview yesterday.

Quinonez added that the leftist groups have decided to meet with the Peace Commission because they consider this organization to have offered guarantees concerning their representativity with the government, and because it is fully supported by the government.

'A happy way to end these meetings would be for all the subversive groups to join the process," Quinonez said. He added that there are indications that the leftist groups have no intention of participating in the elections, but there are other indications which point the other way, and this would be the most beneficial thing for the country, if we want peace, he added.

"The country wants peace. We all want peace. No more bloodshed. Therefore, the mission of the Peace Commission is to protect the lives of hundreds of thousands of Salvadorans, and we cannot play with this." "We cannot discard this possibility for dialogue. A great deal of uncertainty has to be cleared up about this," he asserted.

Quinonez said that the government's basis for the negotiation is the document "Bases for Peace in El Salvador," prepared by the Apaneca Pact's political commissions.

"As part of the efforts being made by the United States for peace and democracy in Central America," he continued, "the critical point of reference is not El Salvador, as many believe, but Nicaragua -- which is intent on destabilizing the area."

"Taking this into consideration, we can say that Nicaragua has one of the worst dictatorships and is trying to export terror and impose its ideology on its neighbors through well-planned campaigns of destabilization. In El Salvador, by contrast, we have a democracy that seeks to achieve peace and tranquillity among its people at any cost."

"In the U.S. government's search for peace in Central America, Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy, must find the solution in Nicaragua; that is where he must practically center his efforts," Quinonez said.

He added that while El Salvador tries to solve its internal problems, the neighboring country tries to create them externally. Therefore, Stone's mission will be solved in that nation.

Quinonez To Meet Guerrillas

PA290143 Paris AFP in Spanish 0115 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Bogota, 28 Aug (AFP) -- A summit to seek a peaceful solution for El Salvador will be held in Bogota tomorrow, Monday, between Salvadoran Peace Commission President Francisco Quinonez and Mario Aguinada Carranza, a representative of the Salvadoran guerrilla groups.

Aguinada Carranza, a member of the FMLN United Revolutionary Directorate and the FDR, arrived in Bogota last Thursday.

Quinonez arrived today.

The location of the meeting has been kept absolutely secret, but it is believed that it may be held in Narino Palace, headquarters of President Belisario Betancur's government. Betancur also initiated the first contact between U.S. special envoy Richard Stone and Salvadoran guerrilla spokesman Ruben Zamora 2 months ago.

ASSEMBLY APPROVES U.S. AID FOR ELECTIONS

PA272205 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 27 Aug 83 p 1

[Excerpts] "The agreement on U.S. aid for the elections did not contain any clause that violated our sovereignty." According to Doctor Ricardo Alfredo Maida, president of the Central Electoral Council, this was the decision reached by the Constituent Assembly following a close, careful study. Maida made this remark after the document's ratification yesterday afternoon.

The special commission, together with members of the council, studied the agreement in the morning to make the pertinent modifications. Then, after midday, they issued a proposal to include the document as the last point on the afternoon's agenda. Nevertheless, Acting President Hugo Carrillo, in deference to the council members in attendance, asked the members of the assembly to authorize the change in the order of the agenda. His request was granted and the document was approved.

In addition, the assembly approved another extension of the state of siege which has been in effect since March 1980.

Parties Fear U.S. Pressure

PA272031 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 26 Aug 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Deputies from the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, and the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA, have expressed fear that the United States will attempt to exert hidden pressure, on the basis of the $3.4 million elections assistance agreement, to make the Salvadoran Government set a date for the presidential elections, thus forcing the government to begin the elections without a voters' registration list, as happened in the 28 March elections.

It has been said that ARENA and PAISA are supported by the Democratic Action Party, AD, and the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS, in this contention. These parties formed the anti-Christian Democracy group following the 28 March elections. The coalition is once again in effect, because the four parties believe that the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, would be the only party to benefit from elections held without an electoral registry.

One of the clauses in the agreement states that part of the funds will be used to draft a list of voters, so that the elections will have greater credibility. It adds that this list, or some other mechanism, must be drawn up. For this reason, the deputies fear that elections could be held without a registry. This phrase, they said, "another mechanism," is an open door for holding elections on a date that the United States might seek. In this way, they might very well plan the elections for December, and "we will not accept that."

The political parties that are committed to a registry feel that elections similar to those of 28 March would benefit only the PDC, while members of the PDC believe that the drafting of this registry "could well be a tactic to gain more time for organizing."

FMLN-FDR REJECT ELECTIONS, PROPOSE NEGOTIATIONS

PA281630 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 28 Aug 83

["Official Declaration" issued by the Executive Committee of the FDR and the Unified Revolutionary Directorate of the FMLN, in El Salvador -- date not given]

[Text] Today we commemorate the second anniversary of the French-Mexican Declaration, and the FMLN-FDR wish to reiterate the following:

1. Our desire to achieve peace.

2. Our willingness to achieve a political solution to the conflict.

3. Our willingness to hold a constructive dialogue, without preconditions, with the U.S. and Salvadoran governments -- parties that are directly involved in the conflict -- with the intention of seeking specific alternatives for peace.

4. Our rejection of the elections that some are trying to impose on El Salvador, because they are not a real and durable solution to the conflict and because they violate our democratic principles, our hopes for peace, and the sovereignty of our people.

While rejecting these elections, we reaffirm our position in support of a political solution that can lead to negotiations on the creation of a new government that would permit full participation and genuinely free and democratic elections.

The current framework of the Salvadoran conflict and our various statements give full support to the French-Mexican Declaration. The situation has grown worse and the conflict is beginning to spread. Peace in the region is now being threatened by the increasing interference of the U.S. Government under Reagan. In effect, the Reagan administration has become the primary military factor in the destabilization of the region and the main obstacle to the self-determination of our peoples in the search for a negotiated solution among the interested parties in El Salvador.

The French-Mexican Declaration was the first recognition of our FMLN-FDR fronts as a politically representative force indispensable to the achievement of a negotiated political solution with the Salvadoran Government. It highlighted the domestic nature of the conflict, whose causes are social injustice and mass repression, and it called upon the peoples and governments of the world to join the efforts to find a negotiated political solution to the Salvadoran conflict.

Two years later, the points of reference in the French-Mexican Declaration are still in effect. With the exception of the U.S. and Israeli governments, and those of the repressive military regimes, the entire international community, including the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, has repeatedly voiced its support for the declaration. By this time we have undoubtedly proven our existence, our representativeness, and the political and military progress that we have achieved. We have also demonstrated our willingness to engage in dialogue with the Salvadoran and U.S. governments as a means of attaining a negotiated political solution.

Our position, which clearly opposes any interventionist military solution, has received and continues to receive support. The best proof of this is the overwhelming support given the efforts of the Contadora Group, which is absolutely opposed to the military and political interference of President Reagan's warmongering government. The U.S. Government's greatest and most direct intervention is its violation of El Salvador's sovereignty, and this makes that government fundamentally responsible for the Salvadoran tragedy.

As a result, the Salvadoran economy is falling into an ever greater crisis, the government's political corruption has grown worse, and the government's inability to militarily defeat the FMLN has been demonstrated repeatedly. Even the Salvadoran defense minister admitted that the Army suffered twice the number of casualties this year as compared to last, despite the fact that U.S. aid has doubled. From July 1981 to date, the repressive army has suffered more than 11,000 casualties, according to military sources, while the U.S. Government is providing nearly $1 million per day to the Salvadoran Government, and it is on our people's shoulders that this burden must be borne.

United, to final victory! Revolution or death, we will win!

ARMY COLONEL MURDERED BY TERRORISTS IN CAPITAL

PA270339 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0059 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Military sources have confirmed to ACAN-EFE that Colonel Jose Larios Guerra, 50 years old and former president of the Salvadoran Olympic Committee, was murdered this afternoon at his residence in San Salvador.

The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, said Larios Guerra was murdered by terrorists in his home, located in the Buenos Aires neighborhood in the western sector of San Salvador.

Following the attack, Larios Guerra was taken, still alive, to the military hospital, where he died moments later, according to the sources.

The murdered military officer occupied several public posts in previous administrations and was president of the Salvadoran Olympic Committee for 15 years. He resigned the post some weeks ago.

FPL Claims Responsibility

PA272200 Paris AFP in Spanish 1808 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Aug (AFP) -- The People's Liberation Forces (FPL) today claimed responsibility for the assassination of Colonel Jose Larios Guerra, former president of the Salvadoran Olympic Committee, who was shot to death late Friday afternoon. In a telephone call to AFP, an urban commando group of the FPL, which forms part of the FMLN, said it had carried out the "execution" of the well-known officer, who resigned his post as president of the Olympic Committee some months ago after 20 years of work there.

For their part, military sources expressed concern over actions by the guerrilla groups, whose urban commando units have been able to circumvent the tight security in San Salvador.

Col Larios was on his way to one of his residences in the Buenos Aires neighborhood in northern San Salvador when he was ambushed by several individuals who had taken up strategic positions. The assassins fled immediately after the shooting.

Larios, who was still alive, was taken to the military hospital where he died due to the seriousness of the wounds which, according to reports, were made by heavy caliber weapons.

The Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) today issued a brief report on the incident, indicating that Col Larios Guerra "died as a result of a terrorist act." It has been learned unofficially in San Salvador that in the wake of Larios' death, security and protection for government officials and officers has been increased.

Military sectors also blame the FMLN for the powerful bomb blast that took place at a car dealership on Thursday night. No organization has claimed this action. This week the FMLN once again sabotaged high tension wires, causing a power blackout in 50 percent of the capital, part of eastern El Salvador, and most of western El Salvador.

The Army has mobilized large contingents of men in a search operation near the hydroelectric dams in northern El Salvador. Approximately 3,000 soldiers are participating in this operation. Included are units from the 1st Infantry Brigade, the 4th Brigade, and the Sensuntepeque and Conjutepeque military detachments.

ZAMORA: ARMY PACIFICATION PLAN WILL FAIL

PA281746 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] According to Ruben Zamora, a member of the FMLN-FDR joint political-diplomatic commission, the pacification plan sponsored by the United States in the Salvadoran department of San Vicente is doomed to failure. In a statement for THE NEW YORK TIMES, Zamora stressed that the program is primarily intended to dislodge the insurgent forces from the area. He added, however, that the military has been unable to do this. According to the representative of the Salvadoran revolutionary, most of the guerrillas are still in San Vicente, but have changed their tactics in facing massive display of troops.

In Zamora's opinion, the Salvadoran regime cannot win, because the regime does not hold the key to victory, which is the people's support.

Zamora added that sympathy for the revolutionaries has grown since Reagan's government decided to stage massive military maneuvers in Honduras and off the coasts of Nicaragua.

40 PERCENT OF NATION HIT BY GUERRILLA BLACKOUT

PA262305 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Text] The Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, has been working since this morning to restore the supply of electricity, interrupted by leftists, to at least 40 percent of the country. Sources close to CEL confirmed that 40 percent of the nation was left without electricity when subversive groups blew up at least two primary towers carrying high-voltage cables supplying energy coming from the 5 November Hydroelectric Central, also known as La Chorrera del Guayabo.

The details supplied to Radio Cadena YSKL reveal that the destroyed towers are located in the provinces of Aguilares and Suchitoto. In the latter province, Army units have been carrying out a large-scale military operation since yesterday, and are also covering the area of Tenancingo and parts of northern San Martin near the highway to Suchitoto. The Army's counterinsurgency units are searching for members of the leftist groups.

Meanwhile, an operation is still underway in San Vicente Department; this is the third month of "Operation Welfare for San Vicente," which comes after a slight increase in the number of rebels and rebel actions in San Vicente Department.

Havana Reports Blackout

PA271746 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] FMLN forces have engaged the Army in heavy fighting in three towns in Chalatenango Chalatenango Department during the last few hours. Simultaneously, guerrilla sappers dynamited several high tension towers, leaving almost 70 percent of El Salvador without power.

A guerrilla group also ambushed a military patrol, but no details are available on this incident.

Army sources reported that a new counterinsurgency operation has been launched in Cuscatlan Department, involving 10,000 troops and Air Force support.

ARMY CONTINUES OPERATION NEAR GUAZAPA

PA270335 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2210 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Military sources have reported that Salvadoran Army troops today continued their antiguerrilla operation near the Guazapa Volcano, in the northern part of the country, while groups of rebels ambushed two military patrols in the same region.

Colonel Adolfo Oneciforo Blandon, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade, told ACAN-EFE that his troops are moving forward in the northern part of Cuscatlan Province, where they have been pursuing the guerrillas during the past few days. He added that the Army troops have assembled in the cantons of Rosario Perico and Copalchan, Tenancingo jurisdiction, 38 km northeast of San Salvador. Col Blandon would not give any details on the initial results of the military operation.

Residents from Tenancingo point out that troops of the 1st Infantry Brigade may get to Guazapa Volcano from the east side, in an encircling movement to be complemented by soldiers from other garrisons who would advance from the north.

According to military sources, other troops were combing the slopes of Guazapa this morning near the Guaycume canton, 22 km north of San Salvador, as part of the antiguerrilla operation which the Army has been carrying out over the past few days.

Military sources in Aguilares reported to ACAN-EFE that a group of rebels ambushed a Civil Defense patrol passing by the Pinalito canton, 38 km north of San Salvador, opening a clash which left two guerrillas dead.

Another encounter, which had no victims, took place this morning when guerrillas ambushed a military patrol passing by El Rosario canton, Guazapa jurisdiction.

Within the last few hours, a group of rebels fleeing from the Army clashed with soldiers in the canton of Copapayo, Suchitoto. No victims have been reported in this incident.

Meanwhile, official sources reported that a powerful bomb damaged the central building of the automobile agency Didea, S.A., located in the center of San Salvador, but caused no injuries.

Tenansingo residents reported hearing several explosions in neighboring areas last night, but the exact location of these blasts has not yet been determined.

ARMY ADVANCES IN AREA OF CACAOPERA

PA262300 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] It was confirmed today that the Army continues to recover territory in the area of Cacaopera, which was attacked two nights ago by a group of the FMLN.

Radio Cadena YSKL has established contact with journalists in the eastern area, and they confirmed that several military units have been deployed to Cacaopera since yesterday afternoon, in an attempt to surround the rebels who raided the town the previous night.

It has also been revealed that problems have been reported at Sociedades, also in Morazan Department. Last week, Army units began to patrol the area to expel leftist groups.

Meanwhile, surveillance operations have been increased on the Pan-American Highway, according to military sources in San Vicente Department, because drivers and passengers have reported sighting leftist groups in the area, a few kilometers from Cuscatlan Bridge.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA REJECTS CONCESSIONS TO KIDNAPPERS

PA270325 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] In an interview today, the Guatemalan head of state, General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, said categorically that he will not succumb to pressure from any subversive group, because they act with criminal intentions. The only purpose of these subversive organizations is to win publicity for themselves, but he will not allow them to succeed at the expense of the people or the government, he added.

Gen Mejia said that it is the subversives, these groups of criminals, who are violating human rights in Guatemala. Mejia declared vigorously that we will not please their instincts, and the government will not yield, even if asked by Rios Montt or God the Father.

Mejia also discussed the kidnapping of Rios Montt's sister and the announcement by the subversive groups that they would release her if they are allowed to make some announcements.

Gen Mejia said: We establish the law; we are within the law. The government would lose much if it accepted publication of these lies. We must abide by our laws, which forbid publication of subversive announcements.

Gen Mejia indicated that the subversives are lying when they claim the Army has made no progress in the struggle against them. All this is a farce, he said. Let them show the progress they have made in the struggle in those areas where they are located or where they have been disbanded. The head of state said he would not compromise with these subversive groups, even if a relative of his were involved.

Mejia Victores said he opposed negotiations for the release of the son of former Government Minister Colonel Ricardo Mendez Ruiz last year, but a single swallow does not make a summer. He indicated that the government does not accept the publication of the statement demanded by the subversive groups, and that it will not be the government which kills the sister of former President Rios Montt, but the subversives.

He added that the document presented by the Rios Montt family will be returned, because the country's laws forbid the publication of such a document. He pointed out that it is clear that those documents may not be published in Guatemala. Otherwise, the law would be broken. For this reason, he warned that, even if the request is made again, there will be no publication. As for publication of the documents abroad, as has also been requested by the guerrillas, that is a different matter, since he is the chief in Guatemala and not abroad.

In addition, Gen Mejia Victores remarked that the value added tax is being studied, and that it will continue in effect until a final decision is reached. The chambers, the university, and other institutions are considering the tax, and will make recommendations later. A decision will then be made.

COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCES TAX REFORM WILL 'BE UPHELD'

PA261903 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Despite the lack of public debate and the haste with which it was established, the tax reform will be upheld by the government, according to an official communique released this afternoon.

According to the media, this was announced in reaction to a statement disseminated by the Guatemalan Chamber of Industries, which held that it is not too late to amend the serious errors that have been made, and calls attention to the fact that the tax laws were enacted while the state of alarm was in effect, thus preventing public debate on the reform.

PDC DISSATISFIED OVER TALKS WITH MEJIA

PA261958 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Report on interview with Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, secretary of the Guatemalan Christian Democratic Party, date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Cerezo Arevalo has expressed his dissatisfaction with the meeting that political leaders held yesterday with Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores.

He stressed that political gameplaying is again underway, and added that the meeting's only accomplishment was the confirmation of the electoral calendar, which had already been approved by the Rios Montt government; and for this, he noted, the political leaders had to wait 15 days. He told this station that his party is considering refusing to attend any more government meetings with politicians:

[Begin recording] [Cerezo] We have considered proposing that the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] not attend any more of these meetings, because no dialogue takes place. These meetings are merely a monologue. [end recording]

Cerezo criticized the government for failing to solve the country's problems, such as that of the IVA [value added tax], in its first 2 weeks.

[Begin recording] [Cerezo] This is like fiction. A coup was staged to change the IVA, which hasn't been changed, and to establish an electoral calendar and move the elections forward, two things which also haven't been done. [end recording]

STATION QUESTIONS GOVERNMENT LABOR POLICY

PA270416 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Station editorial: "Labor Problems Solved at Cudgel Point"]

[Text] What happened at the Delco plant, located 132.5 km along the highway to the Atlantic in Zacapa jurisdiction, is very strange and thought-provoking. According to scant reports, a strike at this plant was prevented through the dismissal of 11 workers and the detention and handing over of another to the courts.

Presumably, in a country where the democratic spirit prevails, even with a de facto government like the one Guatemala currently has, strikes and other socio-labor conflicts must be solved through negotiations between the parties involved, with the intervention -- if required -- of the appropriate authorities from the Labor Ministry and those from Social Welfare. Mark that well: social welfare. But if instead of this procedure, the government resorts to the dismissal and detention of workers, the police cudgel is given authority in what should be a matter of serene discussion. A dangerous and undesirable situation then appears which might give the impression that the regime applies a policy of antilabor repression.

It is by all means necessary for the government to define its policy in this regard, because this might be an important ingredient for social peace. That is, whether the government is willing to respect the unions and the legitimate demands of the working sector -- one of the universally recognized human rights; or whether, on the contrary, such guarantees have been suspended. What about the Labor Ministry, then? Very well, thank you very much. The same is true of the illustrious minister, who is neither good nor bad.

FUR DECLARATION LAUDS MEJIA'S 'POSITIVE STEPS'

PA262225 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Paid advertisement by the United Revolutionary Front]

[Text] People of Guatemala, the United Revolutionary Front [FUR], based on the long tradition of political struggle established by its ideologist and founder, Manuel Colom Argueta, has defined itself as a serious and responsible organization which is fully identified with the ideals and interests of masses -- workers, peasants, the middle class, professionals, public and private employees, teachers, cultural institutions, and progressive businessmen.

The FUR believes that at this historic moment all citizens and institutions -- whether civil or military, the latter being the state's coercive apparatus -- are committed to a common effort to democratize the country in the social, economic, and political sense.

The country is in the first stage of an electoral process. The main electoral laws have already been issued and the Supreme Electoral Court has been established, with the prudent participation of the State Council, headed by Jorge Serrano Elias, Ricardo Zurias Valenzuela, and other important individuals such as representatives of the country's major ethnic groups.

The head of state, supported by the Army's Council of Commanders, has adopted the following positive steps:

1. Cancellation of the state of alarm.

2. Suppression of special courts.

3. Broadening of individual rights and a declaration of the goal of guaranteeing that the electoral process will be held in an atmosphere of freedom and respect for political organizations, without the impositions, fraud, and corruption that have tainted the honesty of past elections.

Fulfillment of this promise would properly bring the country out of its economic crisis. It would initiate a democratic electoral process that would reflect the people's sovereign will in a new constitution in harmony with new political concessions that would lead to the election of rulers, deputies, and municipal bodies within a framework of respect for the thoughts and political will of the people.

The FUR is a social democratic party, an authentic representative of the democratic left. It is neither fascist or Marxist. Together with the masses, it has advocated a democratic regime to prevent minority groups from gaining power through electoral fraud or violence.

Within this framework, our companero and teacher, Amilcar Mendez Urizar, the electoral affairs secretary of the FUR, was arrested by civilian self-defense patrols on Monday, 22 August, at the school where he works in the town of Santa Cruz del Quiche. He had committed no crime. That evening, the "Here's the World" newscast reported that he was arrested on the charge of insulting national symbols. This accusation is completely false. Due to his upbringing, Mendez Urizar has always been respectful of the homeland's symbols. He has in turn passed this ideal on to his students. He has, moreover, honored these symbols at public ceremonies together with his companeros from the civil defense patrols. We believe that his arrest and imprisonment are the result of intrigue, unfounded suspicion, and an erroneous concept of what the FUR is all about.

This sort of incident, which generates confusion and uncertainty among Guatemalans who have believed in the democratic opening, is unacceptable and reprehensible. Based on this incident, the FUR categorically:

1. Reiterates its social democratic ideology.

2. Declares that its activities are conducted with due respect for the republic's institutions, authorities, and laws.

3. Condemns respectfully but forcefully the arbitrary imprisonment of Amilcar Mendez Urizar, which indicates a lack of respect for rights protected by the Constitution.

4. Demands that the government issue effective orders allowing political organizations to perform their activities with complete freedom, within a climate of respect for the law.

[Dated] Guatemala City, 25 Aug 1983.

For the homeland and the revolution! Manuel Colom Argueta, present! United, we will win!

[Signed] Cesar Augusto Toledo Penate, secretary general; Neri Raul Rivera Godinez, organization secretary; Hugo Quan Ma, finance secretary; Amilcar Mendez Urizar, electoral affairs secretary; Luis Armando Bravo Perez, training secretary; Luis Edmundo Lopez Duran secretary general, [as heard]; Francisco Perez Rosales, organization secretary; Jose Estalislao Lopez Maldonado, acts and agreements secretary; Mario Antonio de Leon, union affairs secretary; Jaime Waldemar Garcia Galeano, labor affairs secretary.

RIGHTS COMMISSION ON VIOLATIONS BY FORMER REGIME

PA280443 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] The Guatemalan Human Rights Commission has accused the deposed regime of General Efrain Rios Montt of being responsible for more than 10,000 crimes and the disappearance of 90,000 of their opponents.

Oswaldo Henriquez Contreras made these charges on behalf of the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission; he is also a member of the International Federation of Human Rights. Henrequiz Contreras said:

[Begin recording] The Guatemalan Human Rights Commission believes that, even though there has been another coup, the human rights situation remains unchanged. There are individual and mass murders and disappearances. Approximately 12,000 political murders occurred under the regime of Rios Montt; many of these took the form of massacres and acts of genocide. Approximately 1 million persons were forced to leave their homes; 100,000 are now refugees. Thousands have disappeared; according to FEDEFAM [expansion unknown], some 90,000 people have disappeared in Guatemala. We cannot speak of political prisoners in Guatemala without mentioning the juridical aberration represented by the special tribunals -- created by the regime to eliminate political opponents. To date, 15 people have been shot, 30 sentenced to terms ranging from 6 to 30 years, while 500 are being tried for political and common crimes. In view of this, we are demanding: First, Compensation for the families of the 15 persons who were executed, and second, that the government reveal the names of those who make up the special tribunals because this new regime of Mejia Victores has simply announced their abolition.

Following this announcement, these tribunals stepped up the issuing of sentences against the 500 persons now being tried. Their intention is "to leave nothing pending" when the government issues the decree abolishing these tribunals.

[Unidentified journalist] Do you believe these tribunals will really be abolished?

[Henriquez] We are certain they will be abolished.

What we are now denouncing is the fact that they are committing serious and grave violations of the rights of persons unjustly tried, with the political objective of physically eliminating these persons because they were politically opposed to the Guatemalan military regime. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT OFFICE REPORTS GUERRILLA INCIDENTS

PA261908 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] The Army's public relations office has reported that five unidentified individuals were killed in a clash with government troops in San Cristobal Verapaz. Many weapons and a variety of subversive propaganda were seized.

Meanwhile, a military patrol uncovered three caches used by the guerrillas in the village of Chichupac, in Rabinal, Baja Verapaz, which also contained clandestine leaflets and weapons. The occupants of the hideout fled.

It has also been reported that three deserters from the ranks of the subversives gave themselves up in the Mazatenango military zone, surrendering their weapons and personal gear as stipulated in the amnesty law approved by the president.

HAVANA REVIEWS GUERRILLA GROUPS' ACTIVITIES

PA270255 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] The Guatemalan Army lost 66 men in clashes with the Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, EGP, that took place between 1 June and 18 July.

The Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, another Guatemalan guerrilla organization, destroyed a vehicle belonging to [words indistinct], a U.S. transnational. This operation is part of the rebels' offensive under the slogan: "U.S. companies out of Guatemala and gringos out of Central America." The EGP, FAR, the Armed People's Revolutionary Unity, ORPA, and the Guatemalan Labor Party, PGT, comprise the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG.

REBELS AMBUSH CONVOYS, WOUND, KILL POLICEMEN

PA260001 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2049 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Aug (DPA) -- Guatemalan officials today reported that four treasury policemen died yesterday in the Guatemalan province of San Marcos (250 km southwest of the capital) when unidentified persons set off a bomb while a police convoy passed by.

A second treasury police transport vehicle was attacked today in Guatemala city with another bomb. Several policemen were wounded in the incident.

Officials have reported that several guerrillas were killed in different areas of the country, and security forces confiscated weapons and subversive material.

It has also been reported that new terrorist attacks have taken place against buses covering the route between Guatemala City and the province of El Peten, in the north.

BELIZEAN OPPOSITION LEADER MEETS ANDRADE

PA262135 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Aug 83

[Excerpts] (Alejandro Vernon), a prominent leader of the Belizean opposition, arrived at the National Palace today to meet with the new foreign minister. (Vernon) leads the Toledo Progressive Party [Partido Progresista de Toledo].

[Begin recording] [(Vernon)] I have come to pay my respects to the foreign minister, to place myself at his service, and to exchange views, with particular emphasis on his policy toward Belize. Belize wants to preserve its independence through a peaceful settlement with Guatemala or through guarantees in the form of military defense [words indistinct].

Price's government opted for a military agreement with the United Kingdom for the defense of Belize. However, 2 years have passed and the Belizean people have come to realize that it is better to reach a peaceful settlement with Guatemala. Were this to happen, Belize would not be required either to spend money on defense or to maintain a national fleet. The resources saved could be used on roads, medicine, or education. Relations between Guatemala and Belize must be improved. These ties would be more beneficial to both sides if we concluded an agreement. We feel that negotiations between Guatemala and the United Kingdom must continue, but, naturally, must also include the Belizeans if we are to reach an agreement. The Belizean people now realize that it is better to have a peaceful settlement than to (?be forced to defend) Belize. In addition, Price has now given indications that there is no formal defense treaty with the United Kingdom. [end recording]

HONDURAS

OFFICIAL REPORT DENIES SUAZO HOSPITALIZED IN U.S.

PA271432 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Bulletin issued by the Honduran Government's Direcotrate of International Information in Tegucigalpa; dated August 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] In response to reports that the president of the republic is in poor health and in a hospital in the United States, the Honduran Government reports that:

1. Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova is in Tegucigalpa, recovering excellently and attending to business that, because of its highly important nature, requires his personal attention.

2. The president has suffered no relapse. On the contrary, in view of the outstanding progress that he has made, he will soon resume his (?full) responsibilities.

STONE MEETS WITH PRESIDENT SUAZO CORDOVA

n PA290231 Paris AFP in Spanish 0205 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Aug (AFP) -- Richard Stone, U.S. special ambassador to Central America, met this afternoon with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova at the outset of a new tour of the region.

During his brief, 18-hour visit to Tegucigalpa, Ronald Reagan's special envoy will meet with Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica and high-ranking government officials.

Stone arrived at the Hernan Acosta Air Base in Tegucigalpa at 1425 and proceeded directly to the U.S. embassy, where he met with U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte. At 1600 he was received by President Suazo in the clinic that has been set up for the president at the headquarters of the Honduran Air Force, where he is recovering from a cardiac ailment.

The press has been unable to learn what was discussed in the meeting.

Salvadoran opposition sources told AFP that Stone, who will travel to Costa Rica tomorrow, will meet on Tuesday in San Jose with representatives of the Salvadoran guerrillas.

HAVANA COVERAGE OF U.S.-HONDURAN MANEUVERS

Arrival of Marines Noted

FL261400 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] One thousand Yankee Marines from the "U.S.S. Nassau" have landed at Puerto Cortes, Honduras, as part of the continuing U.S. military buildup in Central America.

The ship's complement includes a squadron of 30 UH-60, UH-47, and UH-58 helicopters; many pieces of combat equipment; and an artillery battalion. These forces will participate in the U.S.-Honduran military exercises known as Big Pine II, which will take place in early September in Honduras near the border with Nicaragua.

The assault ship "U.S.S. Nassau" is equipped with the (?Sea Sparrow) missile system and can transport helicopter squadrons or Harrier-type V/Stol aircraft, which were widely used by the English during the intervention in the Malvinas Islands.

The landing of this detachment in Honduras occurred 48 hours after the beginning of the "Readex II '83" military maneuvers in the Caribbean, which features the participation of 32 U.S. naval units.

These exercises will coincide with the Big Pine II maneuvers and with the naval deployment being carried out by the Yankee government off the coasts of Nicaragua.

New Military Base Reported

PA270040 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] A new contingent of 1,000 U.S. soldiers arrived in Honduras to continue the U.S.-Honduran joint military maneuvers, Big Pine II, which began on 4 August. The troops and an abundant supply of war materiel arrived at Puerto Cortes aboard the "U.S.S. Nassau," which will join the U.S. fleet already in the area. The aircraft carrier "Coral Sea" is part of this force.

An artillery battalion of 370 men and 18 105-mm howitzers will soon arrive at Puerto Castilla, a port on the Atlantic coast of Honduras, where the Pentagon has built an important military base, currently occupied by U.S. Green Berets and special troops of the Honduran Army.

COMMANDER ON NEW NAVAL BASE, INCREASED ABILITIES

PA261609 Paris AFP in Spanish 0043 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 25 Aug (AFP) — Colonel Ruben Montoya, commander in chief of the Honduran Navy, has announced that a naval base will be built in Puerto Castilla, near the regional military and security training center that has been operating in this Atlantic region since June with the active participation of 12 U.S. advisers.

The colonel pointed out that the Honduran Navy has been strengthened over the last few weeks by the return of several patrol boats that were being repaired in the United States. He also reported that it has increased its personnel and equipment, although he did not offer any figures.

The commander also pointed out that the Armed Forces will acquire more modern naval equipment in the next few months, which will allow "strict control" over the Gulf of Fonseca, in the Atlantic. Jurisdiction over the gulf is shared by Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua.

He pointed out that the personnel who will participate in the Big Pine II naval maneuvers next September will have a "greater ability to defend the country's maritime sovereignty from the constant attacks of the Sandinist navy."

As an example of this increased military capacity, Colonel Montoya said that the detention of several Honduran fishing boats was recently prevented. These boats, he said, were pursued by the Sandinists near the 15th parallel in the Atlantic.

He also announced that Honduras will arm its fishing fleet "for self-defense," since the Nicaraguans have already taken similar measures in order to "commit acts of piracy."

On the subject of the new base that will be built in Puerto Castilla, he said that its main function will be to protect these fishing boats in the Atlantic.

He also reported that patrols in this region are being coordinated with El Salvador, to "avoid attacks" from the Nicaraguan Navy and to curb the alleged flow of arms which passes through the gulf to the Salvadoran guerrillas, which the Nicaraguan Government has been accused of promoting.

Colonel Montoya pointed out that much of the naval equipment that the Americans will bring for the naval maneuvers will be acquired by the Honduran Armed Forces command.

NO SIGN OF CREW 'KIDNAPPED' BY SANDINISTS

PA260405 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 25 Aug 83 p 36

[Text] La Ceiba, Atlantida — The Sandinist army of Nicaragua kidnapped eight Honduran shrimp fisherman after attacking their boat near the Half Moon Reefs, off the Atlantic coast of Honduras and in our country's territorial waters.

Arnulfo Galindo Evans explained that the boat, identified as "Midnight II," was located at Parallel 16.16 north and 16.8 east when it was attacked by a Sandinist patrol boat.

The incident took place on 17 August. When the Nicaraguans attacked the boat, the Honduran crewmen jumped overboard and took to the reefs. Eight of them, however, were eventually captured.

The captured Hondurans include Carlos Miguel Diaz, Javier Gustavo Panchame, Richardo Wilfredo Galeano, Steve Evans Bush, Danilo Reyes Andrade, and Felipe Herrera, plus two Miskito Indians whose names were not given.

According to the latest report by the delegate of the Public Security Forces, FUSEP, on Guanaja Island, Bay Islands, the police released the kidnapped Hondurans have still not appeared.

LIBERAL PARTY APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

PA270235 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Communique issued by the Liberal Party of Honduras Central Executive Council in Tegucigalpa on 25 August 1983 -- read by Guillermo Bustillo Lasso]

[Text] To the people of Honduras, especially to all Liberals:

1. On 24 August the Disciplinary Commission of Central Executive Council of the Party of Honduras was appointed as follows:

Members: Elizabeth Chiuz Sierra, (Gilberto Ochoa B.), (Antonio Andino Sandres).

Alternates: (Jorge Alberto Vasquez), (Rene Correa), (Ingrid Belinda Diaz).

2. On 24 August the Central Executive Council was reorganized as follows: Romauldo Bueso Penalba, president; (Pompilio Romero Martinez), secretary general, Rodrigo Castillo Aguilar, secretary for youth, workers, and peasant affairs; Fausto Castillo Suazo, secretary for financial affairs; (Juan de la Cruz Avelar), secretary for propaganda and organization; (Edna Kiffer de Alfonso), secretary for women's affairs; and Jose Simon Azcona del Hoyo, secretary for political training.

BOMBING REPORTED AT STANDARD FRUIT COMPANY OFFICES

PA261740 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] La Ceiba -- A bomb went off last night at the offices of the Standard Fruit Company. We repeat: The offices of the Standard Fruit Company were bombed last night.

Our station tried to make inquiries into this case, which is something new in this port city of La Ceiba, because the people here are usually peaceful. Lieutenant Flores [not further identified] said that the investigation of the incident is continuing.

No injuries have been reported. The losses from the bombing at the Standard Fruit Company offices are not yet known. Part of the roof of the materials office in the engineering department was virtually destroyed.

DESERTERS REPORT 'IMMINENT' GUERRILLA INVASION

PA270305 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2156 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 26 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The imminent invasion of Honduras by 700 leftist guerrillas who have been trained in Nicaragua and Cuba was announced today in Tegucigalpa by deserters from the rebel ranks.

The Honduran Armed Forces today called a press conference to present Ramon Arturo Colindres and Santos Francisco Sanchez, who confessed they were deserters from a guerrilla group that infiltrated the country through eastern Olancho Department, coming from Nicaragua. Including these men, five guerrillas have now surrendered to military officials throughout the country, arguing that they were "tricked" by their recruiters, who promised them coursed in technical training for agrarian activities; instead, they were sent to Cuba, where they were actually trained in guerrilla warfare. According to the deserters, the group which they were a part of until some 2 weeks ago is now practically disbanded, because it has lost contact with its base in Nicaragua and lacks adequate supplies.

NICARAGUA

CEREMONY MARKS JOINT DOCTORS' GRADUATION WITH CUBA

Del Valle Briefed on Achievements

PA271701 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Commander Sergio de Valle, a member of the Cuban Communist Party Political Bureau and that nation's minister of health, has learned of all the breakthroughs which have been made in the field of health since the revolutionary victory.

During a meeting in which Nicaraguan Health Minister Lea Guido and all the regional directors of the Health Ministry participated, Commander del Valle was told not only of these achievements but also of the aggression which the Nicaraguan people are now facing. One example of this aggression was given by Dr Bladis Silva, delegate from the Sixth Health Region of Matagalpa-Jinotega, who reported that five health centers in his region have had to be closed due to imperialist aggression. Delegates from the other health regions and special areas gave similar reports, offering details on the sacrifices that health workers are making to serve the population. The Cuban minister of health, who arrived in Nicaragua yesterday, will participate in the graduation ceremony for Nicaraguan and Cuban doctors scheduled for this afternoon.

Daniel Ortega Speech

PA280350 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2303 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at the graduation of 337 Nicaraguan and Cuban doctors in the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] This "Heroes and Martyrs of San Francisco del Norte/They Shall Not Pass and 30th Anniversary of the Attack on Moncada" graduation is being held in Nicaragua as a real example of what friendship and solidarity between two peoples -- Cuban and Nicaraguan -- means.

We must be grateful to the Cuban people, the Communist Party of Cuba, and Companero Fidel for the fact that this graduation is being held with Cubans and Nicaraguans. We must also be grateful for the decision of the Cuban companeros, who did not hesitate to come to our fatherland, which is being attacked by imperialism. They came to finish their year of study and provide medical service. We must also be grateful for the upcoming arrival of 200 Cuban doctors who are coming to finish their internship and provide medical service. They will spend 3 years in Nicaragua. As Companero Sergio del Valle said, this will increase to 800 the number of companero workers in our country.

The triumph of the Nicaraguan revolution worries the enemies of the peoples. They do not like so many Cubans in Nicaragua. They are always counting, saying that there are so many thousands of Cuban advisers, military advisers, in Nicaragua. When they draw up their count, they include the doctors, teachers, and construction workers. However, they are not really worried about 1, 2, 100, or 200 Cuban military advisers in Nicaragua -- that is not what worries them. They are worried that there are 600 Cuban doctors in Nicaragua, because the example of a Cuban doctor in Nicaragua is more dangerous for imperialism and its puppets than a dozen military advisers. They cannot fight or compete against that. They can send armaments, Marines, warships, and airplanes to bomb, and thousands of tons of explosives. They can do that, but they cannot send 50, 100, or 200 doctors or technicians, or humanitarian aid to the people because they are not willing to do so, because they do not have the conscience or conceptual framework concerning this, because they are not really interested in helping the people. With all their great economic power, with all their billions of dollars, they are not interested in investing in a single center for the benefit of the people. In any case, their policy is directed at subjugating and oppressing the people, depriving them of medical service and keeping them ignorant and illiterate.

The U.S. Government worries justifiably about the fact that Cuba, a country that is not an economic power and that makes a great effort to help other peoples, gives this kind of aid to the Nicaraguan people. It also worries that there are a people, a government, and a vanguard -- the FSLN -- here determined to accept the aid of the brother Cuban people and unwilling to negotiate that aid. [applause]

We want to pay tribute to the companero Cuban and Nicaraguan martyrs who have fallen victim to imperialism's aggressions. We want to pay tribute to the companero Nicaraguans and Cubans who have been working in dangerous areas. [applause] Those companeros have been exposed and will continue to be exposed to the aggressions of the U.S. Government. We said this morning that those responsible are not the Somozist guardsmen. The U.S. Government is responsible, because it arms and encourages the Somozist guardsmen.

This joint graduation of Cubans and Nicaraguans further strengthens the brotherhood and friendship of our two peoples. These are exemplary relations. The Cuban and Nicaraguan revolutions have brought about the expansion of those relations.

We are an example of relations between two peoples, between two revolutionary states. Above all, we are an example to those who want to impose their model on Nicaragua, who want to change the nature of the Nicaraguan revolution, who really want to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution, using many pretexts and fabrications. They speak of human rights, yet they are the greatest violators of human rights.

This is an example of the struggle for human rights because the people benefit directly from health services. Human rights are not words but actions.

Of course, they have their ideas about human rights. They understand human rights to be arming Somozist guardsmen to launch them against the Nicaraguan people. They understand human rights to be sending their warships, landing thousands of U.S. soldiers in Honduran territory to threaten Nicaragua, invading countries, and supporting criminal regimes that exploit the peoples. Two concepts, two attitudes, confront each other here: the attitude of the exploiters, who want to deny all rights to the people, an attitude that is defended by the U.S. Government; and the attitude of those who defend the peoples -- in this case, Cuba and Nicaragua -- the Central American peoples, and the heroic Salvadoran people. [applause]

We want to tell the companeros, the recently graduated Cuban and Nicaraguan doctors, that the Nicaraguan people have confidence in you. We are sure that you will not disappoint those people who are fighting, who are building, who are sweating and shedding their blood and tears to defend this free fatherland or death!

Havana Cites Ortega, Del Valle

PA281810 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, termed his country's relations with Cuba exemplary, and stressed that the Cuban Government's aid to Nicaragua will never be the subject of negotiation. Ortega stressed that the U.S. leaders are worried because in Nicaragua the government, the people, and the political vanguard -- the Sandinist front -- are determined and willing to accept the fraternal Cuban people's aid.

Ortega said this at the joint graduation of 337 Nicaraguan and Cuban doctors. Cuban Public Health Minister Dr Sergio del Valle attended this ceremony. Ortega subsequently stressed that, to imperialism and its puppets, the example set by a Cuban doctor is more dangerous than a dozen military advisers. The imperialists can neither fight nor compete with the example set by doctors, teachers, builders, and other Cuban civilians who are helping us, he added. Ortega stressed that although the United States can dispatch warships and send weapons and thousands of troops to Honduras in order to threaten Nicaragua, it is unwilling to send 50, 100, or 200 doctors, technicians, or similar aid, to the people.

For his part, Cuban Public Health Minister Dr del Valle warned the United States that it should not make a mistake in viewing our country's willingness to hold a dialogue and to achieve political solutions. At the graduation ceremony for Cuban and Nicaraguan doctors in Managua, Dr del Valle stressed that the imperialists are wrong if they think that Cuba's decision in favor of a dialogue and a peaceful solution to the area's current problems is a sign of either weakness or fear of the U.S. militaristic display in the area. On the contrary, del Valle stressed, Cuba's stand is a demonstration of force, of security and confidence in history, and of our determination to fight to the last drop of blood in defense of a just and invincible cause.

The Cuban minister also stressed that imperialism has failed to force the Sandinist revolution to its knees, and said that it will never do so. Similarly, he added, the United States will never be able to keep the Salvadoran people from fulfilling their desire for freedom, peace, dignity, and true democracy.

Commenting on the work being done by Cuban doctors in Nicaragua, Dr del Valle said that it is impressive to realize that they have offered over 5 million out-patient and emergency consultations since the victory of the Sandinist revolution in 1979.

HAVANA REPORTS ORTEGA INAUGURATES MOMOTOMBO PLANT

PA281732 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, has inaugurated the first geothermal plant in that Central American country at the Momotombo volcano, 50 km north of Managua.

The plant was built at a cost of $60 million with the cooperation of Mexico, Italy, France, the OLADE, and other organizations. It will produce 35,000 kwh and will save Nicaragua $14 million in fuel costs per year.

Construction of a second unit with the same capacity will soon begin at the same site.

In his speech, Daniel Ortega compared the international aid that Nicaragua has received for the Momotombo project with the aid that the United States gives to those who want to destroy Nicaragua. He urged the people to be alert, in order to prevent counterrevolutionary sabotage.

He recalled that a counterrevolutionary plan to destroy the geothermal plant was recently discovered and he warned that the enemy will continue to sabotage the project, which was given the name of Patricio Arguello (Riand), in honor of the Nicaraguan revolutionary who died fighting alongside the Palestinian patriots.

ARCE EXPLAINS MILITARY SERVICE, PRAISES DOCTORS

PA262245 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the Political Committee of the FSLN National Directorate, said yesterday that patriotic military service is nothing but a means of organizing our people to better defend themselves. Arce Castano made this statement while honoring 138 doctors on their graduation from the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua.

After expressing the National Directorate's admiration that these new professionals unanimously asked to undertake their social service in the country's most inhospitable areas, Commander Arce Castano stressed hat this is the kind of new man that the revolution is forming. We have 10, 20, and even 30 times more men ready to defend the revolution than we have arms, the leader said. He added that the new form of military service was not planned to coerce anyone, but rather to organize our defense forces. He said that the pretty boys and the irresolute need not worry, because although the law will establish obligatory service, weapons will not be placed in soft hands that are good only for vice.

The FSLN is nothing but the armed people with power in their hands, Bayardo Arce Castano told the audience at the ceremony, during which the doctors dedicated their graduating class to Sandinist hero Dennis Silva Torres. Commander Arce Castano said that the exemplary attitude of these new professionals, who have a new mentality, is another achievement of the revolution, which is now bearing its first fruit.

He said that the FSLN is responsible for what happens in Nicaragua -- good or bad -- since the front is merely the Nicaraguan people increasing their efforts to move forward.

OPPOSITION SECTORS REJECT MILITARY SERVICE BILL

PA272006 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1448 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 27 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan opposition bloc called the Democratic Coordinating Board said in a communique today that "it entirely rejects the military service bill."

The dissidents said that "because they advocate peace they feel that a law of this sort must not promulgated, not even by a constitutionally legitimate government."

The politicians said that the bill tends to curb political and ideological pluralism and affects the family by seeking to incorporate women into military activities.

The Democratic Coordinating Board is composed of three parties (the Constitutionalist Liberal, Social Christian, and Social Democratic Parties), two trade union federations, and the Higher Council of Private Enterprise.

For its part the Conservative Party, which is in the opposition but does not belong to any political bloc, said in a bulletin it circulated in Managua today that the military service is "a rebuke to the Contadora Group's peace efforts."

Conservative leader Enrique Sotelo Borgen said that the Contadora Group (Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia) is negotiating peace in Central America and is making great efforts and recommendations to curb the arms race in the Central American area.

Sotelo added that the "law on military service forces the country's citizenry to join the FSLN militarily, and the FSLN is an organization that exerts partisan control over the present Nicaraguan Army."

NEWSPAPER PRAISES MEXICAN SOLIDARITY, OIL SUPPLY

PA271744 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 23 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial: "We Will Have Petroleum!" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] COMMANDER OF THE REVOLUTION HENRY RUIZ RETURNED FROM THE CITY OF PALACES [MEXICO CITY] WITH GOOD NEWS, PRAISING THE WELL-KNOWN POSITION TAKEN BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT LED BY PRESIDENT MIGUEL DE LA MADRID: MEXICO WILL GIVE ITS DETERMINED SUPPORT TO OUR STRUGGLE TO PREVENT THE DISASTROUS WAR THAT THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO IMPOSE ON THE PEOPLES OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

The news is so good that it implies yet another defeat for Nicaragua's enemies. Their attempts to get the Mexican Government to end its daily supply of 15,000 barrels of oil which we use to run our factories and our country's vehicles, have been defeated.

Thus we can say that, citing the announcement made by Henry Ruiz, commander of the revolution and planning minister, WE WILL NOT LACK OIL.

HOWEVER...all Nicaraguans who have become aware of our country's difficult situation must not only rejoice at this announcement but must vow to contribute to genuine savings in oil and its byproducts.

Imperialism is sparing no effort to put an end to the San Jose Agreement, which establishes certain concessions to be made by the oil suppliers (Mexico and Venezuela) to the countries of Central America. By these maneuvers, which have been amply reported by various international news agencies, imperialism is trying to increase its military and economic aggression against the Nicaraguan revolution.

But the solidarity shown by the Mexican people and government is firm. For this reason, Mexico -- upholding Benito Juarez' principle that RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS IS PEACE -- will not only continue to send expressions of support for and solidarity with our cause, the cause of the Sandinist revolution, but will also send us its oil, which we will pay for in accordance with the agreement. In addition, it will continue to give us other kinds of material support, as it has done since the triumph of our revolution.

This solidarity from the Mexican people and government, just like that from other countries, compels us Nicaraguans to demonstrate that we understand the situation affecting us. And as proof of this understanding, we must do our best to save the energy obtained from petroleum.

By making this a constant practice, we can save our resources for use in accelerating the reconstruction of our country, thus pulling it out of the backwardness which we inherited from past regimes.

HAVANA REPORTS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

PA290225 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Representatives of the 35 social democratic parties that attended the meeting of the Socialist International in Rio de Janeiro rejected U.S. pressures to withdraw their support from the Nicaraguan revolution. Fernando Cardenal, FSLN representative at the conference held in Brazil 19-21 August, reported that in a letter sent by the U.S. State Department to the presidency of the meeting, the United States accused Nicaragua of provoking the imbalance and destabilization of Central America.

Nevertheless, Fernando Cardenal emphasized, the Nicaraguan revolution received complete support from all the participating political organizations, and the FSLN was even invited to participate in the presidency of the meeting. The Nicaraguan representative presented his country's six-point peace proposal. He indicated that the final declaration included the Nicaraguan Government peaceful position on the Central American conflict and the efforts of the Contadora Group.

DEFENSE MINISTRY CLAIMS HONDURAN ARMY MORTAR FIRE

PA261912 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] The Honduran Army shelled Nicaraguan positions yesterday in an effort to cover the retreat of a group of counterrevolutionaries that clashed with the Sandinist army at Los Tablones, 16 km from Somoto. According to the Defense Ministry, the mortar shells that were fired at Nicaragua killed one of the counterrevolutionaries who were fleeing to Honduras in disarray.

BORGE CLAIMS 16 ANTI-SANDINISTS KILLED IN CLASH

PA281946 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1840 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 28 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Elite Nicaraguan Army troops called "Pablo Ubeda" inflicted 17 casualties on anti-Sandinist groups in a clash in the area of Zompopera, in northern Nicaragua, it was reported here today.

Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge reported that the number of rebels killed may be larger, given that the rebels carried away several wounded men when they fled. There were no reports of casualties among the elite Army troops.

Borge said that a "counterrevolutionary" commander, who was identified only as "Sergeant Caceres" and who led a task force that tried to destroy the bridge over the Tuma River, in Matagalpa Department, died in the clash.

The interior minister added that an enemy force from the "Satigario" base in Honduras attacked the town of San Lucas, in Madriz Department, which borders Honduras. Borge asserted that the attackers were repelled and driven from Nicaraguan territory.

He said that the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Front has suffered over 100 casualties thus far this year. Military sources have reported the death of 11 Nicaraguan Army troops to date.

Havana Cites Borge

PA290154 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge has announced in Managua that Sandinist troops repelled a group of former Somozist guardsmen trying to seize the town of San Lucas, Madriz Department. He also reported the death of 16 [as heard] counterrevolutionaries in Jinotega Department. Commander Borge said that in both actions the enemy forces were coming from Honduran territory.

Speaking at a public event on Saturday, the Nicaraguan interior minister added that there is talk in the United States of the Vietnam syndrome suffered by the soldiers who fought in that Asian country. If they come to our country, he stressed, they will stop talking about the Vietnam syndrome and start talking about the Nicaragua syndrome.

For his part, the Nicaraguan defense minister reported that 81 counterrevolutionaries were killed in 8 actions last week in northern Nicaragua.

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS RECENT ARMED ACTIONS

PA261255 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Communique No 20 issued by the Public and Foreign Relations Directorate of the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry in Managua on 25 August]

[Text] The Defense Ministry reports that within the framework of the recent escalation in Somozist armed counterrevolutionaries' attacks, a number of clashes and terrorist actions have taken place. Our troops have neutralized and repelled them, however, and have retaken the offensive. The Sandinist People's Militia [MPS] has inflicted numerous casualties on the counterrevolutionary groups, demonstrating both heroism and courage.

In addition to incidents that have been officially published in the media, we wish to report the following:

1. On 19 August, a special commando group tried to blow up the El Tuma bridge, 19 km northwest of Matagalpa.

They were repelled by the MPS, who then pursued them and killed nine counterrevolutionaries in Piedra Luna, 6 km east of El Tuma. Four militiamen were wounded. C-3 plastic explosives, rifles of various calibers, and ammunition were seized from the enemy.

2. On 21 August, in Aguas Calientes, 26 km south of Wiwili, our troops clashed with counterrevolutionary elements, killing 10.

3. On 21 August, fighting took place in (Taiwas), 20 km northwest of Matiguas. Three Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] troops died in this clash, while six counterrevolutionaries were killed.

4. On 21 August, in Guazapa, 10 km northeast of Quilali, EPS forces surrounded a counterrevolutionary group, killing 10 of its members.

5. On 22 August, a special counterrevolutionary commando group tried to sabotage the El Jicote bridge, in the jurisdiction of San Sebastian de Yali. The group was pursued and a clash ensued at the mouth of the Yali River, 5 km northwest of the town, in which five counterrevolutionaries were killed. An EPS reservist died heroically in this action. Both explosives and weapons were recovered from the eenemy.

6. On 22 August, an EPS station wagon was ambushed in El Tamarindo, 60 km northeast of Rosita, in Zelaya Norte. Two EPS members and two counterrevolutionaries were killed.

7. On 22 August, heavy fighting took place on the La Gusanera River, 10 km northwest of (Planes de Milan), Jinotega Department. Once again, the MPS heroically confronted the enemy; as a result, 18 counterrevolutionaries were killed and weapons, explosives, and military supplies were captured.

8. On 24 August, at 0500, more than 200 counterrevolutionaries attacked Ciudad Sandino, previously known as El Jicaro. MPS member Isidro (Torin) and Marco Sevilla Torres, a member of the volunteer police, died heroically in this action, while 21 counterrevolutionaries were killed.

Along with the MPS combat units, the active participation of the volunteer police, the revolutionary guards, and the FSLN regional representatives contributed highly to our defense. Military operations continue to be carried out by the EPS combat units -- the EPS troops in the militia, reserves, and special units -- in close coordination with the Interior Ministry.

Free fatherland or death!

63 'SOMOZISTS' SENTENCED TO 3-30 YEAR PRISON TERMS

PA270447 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] According to Dr Omar Cortes, president of the court of first instance of the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals, 172 Somozist defendants have been put at the orders of the Anti-Somozist People's Tribunals by the attorney general. Of the 172 Somozists, 63 have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from 3 to 30 years, Dr Cortes indicated.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS QUERY SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

PA270425 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Christian Democratic Solidarity Front "in Central America" on 22 August]

[Text] What is happening to the Socialist International? We ask this question after seeing the Socialist International's constantly zigzagging statements on Nicaragua.

Since the FSLN -- the ruling Marxist-Leninist party in Nicaragua -- abandoned the democratic principles of the Nicaraguan revolution, repressing its allies in the anti-Somozist struggle and imposing a leftwing totalitarianism, many democratic forces that support the Nicaraguan people have clearly expressed their concern. Only the Socialist International has been ambiguous. On the one hand, it says that it supports the original Nicaraguan revolution, but in practice it supports the FSLN, which has betrayed that revolution and seeks to impose the Marxist-Leninist model on our people. The Socialist International supports nonintervention by the superpowers in Central America. But if there are U.S. ships, its protest is loud; if there are Soviet ships, it remains silent.

The Socialist International always talks about backing the region's democratic development, but deep down, it hinders this by supporting the FSLN regime that is trying to expand totalitarianism in the area. The Socialist International has always said it supports overall political solutions in Central America, but it rejected the Forum for Peace promoted by Costa Rica and did not officially attend the recent meeting for peace and democracy organized by democratic forces of the isthmus.

While in July, Socialist International leaders Carlos Andres Perez and Daniel Oduber criticized the FSLN's failure to fulfill its original plan and Willy Brandt and Felipe Gonzalez adopted more realistic positions on the problem, a month later, Pena Gomez expressed the Socialist International's total support for the totalitarian government of the FSLN. The Socialist International says that Central Americans should solve their own problems but then [name indistinct] from Finland and Joop Den Uyl from the Netherlands want to impose their own views concerning our problems.

What is happening to the Socialist International? Why did it make a 180-degree turn in just a month? What happened between the Madrid summit in July and the Rio de Janeiro meeting in August? Why does it continue to invite the FSLN to its meetings while rejecting the membership of many Social Democratic organizations of the area, including two from Nicaragua, the MDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement] and the PSD [Social Democratic Party]? To what extent is the Socialist International responsible -- in view of its support for FSLN -- for the crimes, torture, and repression that the FSLN daily carries out in Nicaragua? To what extent will the Socialist International be responsible if all Central America falls into the hands of communism?

The Nicaraguan Christian Democrats, organized in the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, FSDC, believe that the Socialist International should clearly define its position on the Nicaraguan problem. It is either faithful to its principles or it is a tool of Soviet expansionism. The Socialist International must know that support for the FSLN is support for the attacks on the Catholic Church; it is to be an accomplice in the disrespect shown to Pope John Paul II; it is to support the permanent censorship of the new newspaper LA PRENSA; it is to support the strategy of eradicating true political pluralism; it is to support the massacre of the Miskito Indians; in a word, it is to support the strengthening of a Soviet-Cuban satellite in Central America.

If the Socialist International supports the democratic plan of the original revolution, it must support the forces that are trying to rescue the revolution and it must not support the FSLN, which has turned the revolution into a Marxist-Leninist dictatorship.

The FSDC concludes this challenge to the Socialist International by telling it that the current situation in Central America cannot continue to wait for a clear and precise definition. This is, however, an essential condition if the Socialist International wants to really solve the region's problems. The Socialist International's ambiguity and zigzagging only helps the Nicaraguan Marxist-Leninist regime and the Soviet Union's expansionist plans in our region. Companeros of the Socialist International: Take a stand!

[Dated] Central America, 22 August 1983

[Signed] Joe Davila, FSDC political coordinator; Anibal Guevera, coordinator of organization

PASTORA ANNOUNCES UPCOMING MILITARY OPERATION

PA261856 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Commander Eden Pastora, leading the heroic troops of ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] has announced that a major new military operation is to take place, one that will further hurt and weaken the criminal regime of the traitors.

This military operation, which we have termed: "Turn Toward the Sun," will be carried out under Pastora's orders and with his participation, as he has remained with our troops at all times.

While our soldirs are dealing harsh blows to the EPS [Sandinist People's Army], a pro-Soviet army, the criminal regime and the lackeys in the misinformation service loyal to the nine [commanders], are attempting to mislead world public opinion by stating that Commander Pastora will temporarily leave the battlefield to tour the United States in search of support from the Latin American community there. This is completely false, particularly given the scale of the operations that Commander Pastora is preparing, which we know will result in large losses for the totalitarian regime.

The barbarian regime of the nine realizes that ARDE's forces are at the highest possible level of preparedness and fighting ability, and that our upcoming actions will make it feel the weight of our strict justice, which is quickly placing the pro-Soviet army on the defensive.

Nothing and no one can stop the liberating advance of our troops because we are motivated by the force of reason and justice.

Long live the ARDE armed forces! We will bury the interventionists' hearts in Nicaragua!

ARDE LEADER DISCUSSES POLITICAL BASE, GOALS

PA262250 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1530 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Madrid, 26 Aug (EFE) -- According to its political leader, the political base of the anti-Sandinist guerrillas of ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] is a "revolutionary and democratic" 18-point proposal.

In an article published today in the Madrid newspaper DIARIO 16, Alfonso Robelo indicates that the existence of political parties in exile, the constant threat to dissidents within Nicaragua, an economy which has been absorbed by the state, and a clear-cut alignment with the Soviet Union have disproved the arguments of the Nicaraguan Government.

ARDE proposes the organization of a revolutionary government of national unity with a government junta as its highest authority, above any military power. Robelo stressed that this political position includes "genuine political pluralism, sovereignty, nationalism, genuine nonalignment, and a mixed economy."

The political stance also notes that the revolutionary government of national unity would last one year and appoint a pluralist cabinet. Robelo added in his article that elections for a constituent assembly would be held at the end of that year, and that general elections would be held a year later.

ARDE, whole military chief is Eden Pastora, known as "Commander Cero" during the Sandinist revolution, and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), form the two domestic fronts against the current Nicaraguan regime.

REBELS CLAIM JOURNALISTS VERIFY CONTROL OF AREAS

PA271720 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] European, gringo, and Central American journalists have verified the advances made recently by ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance].

Tito Chamorro Jr., a Nicaraguan patriot fighting under Commander Eden Pastora, spoke with international and Central American journalists in the southern Nicaraguan jungle, telling them: Our struggle is based on guerrilla warfare tactics. Chamorro Jr. is responsible for the northern Rio San Juan region, including a portion of the Atlantic coast. ARDE's fighters have 40 territories [comarcas] and towns under their control, for the EPS [Sandinist Peoples Army] borderguards and their foreign advisers very seldom enter the areas under the control of the insurgent columns that are defending the fatherland's sovereignty.

Jouranlists of LA REPUBLICA, a Costa Rican newspaper, who, along with U.S. and European journalists, recently visited the area controlled by Pastora and his patriots, claim that they have verified rebel control of the areas of Punta Gorda, south of Monquibel; along the Maiz River delta; [words indistinct]; up to the start of the Indio River at La Guinea Hill; the entire San Juan River, which flows into Punta Gorda; the San Juanillo River; El Cedro; Los Canones; (Garafa) Island; and the area around San Juan del Norte, a town with a large civilian population continually besieged by the insurgents.

Very seldom does the EPS try to enter this liberated region. In the past, they attacked by air, but now, in the face of rebel antiaircraft batteries hidden in the jungle, the air attacks have ceased.

The interventionist army is on the defensive in San Carlos, Nueva Guinea, and Bluefields, as the journalists have verified.

OBJECTIVES OF U.S. C.A. STRATEGY CONDEMNED

PA271400 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 26 Aug 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Little by little, the new U.S. strategy toward Central America is taking shape; its primary objective is to strengthen the dictatorial regimes in the area, within the framework of a political concept that is based on open war against revolutionary movements. Washington also intends to involve its allies in the area in U.S. President Ronald Reagan's warmongering adventure. This plan began with a relocation of U.S. State Department officials who are directly involved with Central American problems. Its most recent expression was the 8 August coup d'etat that brought General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores to the Guatemalan presidency. He has publicly stated his decision to give unconditional support to U.S. Central American policy.

Recently, Salvadoran guerrilla commander Ferman Cienfuegos, a member of the FMLN general command, charged that the United States is planning to stage a coup d'etat in El Salvador, as part of its warmongering strategy in the area, which includes engaging in dialogue with the rebel forces from an advantageous position. The Salvadoran rebel commander asserted that the U.S. plot hopes to eliminate discredited military officers and to create a provisional government consisting of members of the rightwing forces who are in full agreement with Washington's position. With this, Cienfuegos said, the U.S. Government is in fact boycotting the peace negotiations that are being carried out in Central America by the Contadora Group.

This is, in fact, the truth. Just as regional media have been reporting, Washington's ambiguous policy -- which on the one hand seems to reflect a willingness to establish a dialogue, while on the other it involves an escalation in warmongering actions -- is intended to deliberately impede any negotiated solution to the Central American crisis, to impose its warmongering criterion in the long run, and to avoid any commitment to peace.

In this context the Salvadoran revolutionary forces have clearly stated their position, repeatedly expressing their willingness to engage in dialogue to seek a solution to the country's political-military crisis, as long as the United States agrees to sit at the negotiations table as one of the parties that are directly involved in the conflict. The FMLN-FDR fronts have even stated their willingness to establish a dialogue with the so-called Peace Commission that was created by the Salvadoran regime, at the urging of the U.S. Government.

The first step in this regard was taken last July when representatives of the Salvadoran revolutionary forces met in Bogota with Richard Stone, U.S. presidential envoy for the region. The second meeting has been agreed upon for the near future, in an as yet undetermined Latin American country. It has been reported that the meeting will have an open agenda. This clearly demonstrates the FMLN-FDR's willingness to seek negotiated solutions to El Salvador's problems. In fact, this puts the United States in a position where it must make a decision: either it agrees to work seriously in favor of peace, or it must put a definite end to its political-diplomatic games and continue on the road toward war.

MALMIERCA SCORES U.S. IN WARSAW PRESS CONFERENCE

FL262100 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2002 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today assessed the outcome of his visit and of meetings he held with Polish leaders as positive.

He particularly highlighted the welcome he was given by the first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party and premier, Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, to whom he conveyed cordial greetings from our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

At a Warsaw press conference, Malmierca asserted that Cuban-Polish ties have a long tradition and are being satisfactorily developed, although they have not been fully exploited. Along this line, he noted that a meeting dedicated to the development of bilateral economic relations would be held in the Polish capital next year.

[Havana International Service in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 27 August, in a report on Foreign Minister Malmierca's remarks to the press in Warsaw, reads as follows:

Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca described the results of his visit to Poland as positive and added that during the meetings with top-ranking Polish leaders he analyzed bilateral relations and the international situation.

During a press conference held in Warsaw, Malmierca said that in 1984 a meeting will be held at which plans that will help to improve relations in all fields will be analyzed.]

The Cuban foreign minister said the Chad situation was the reflection of the presence of foreign forces in a region in conflict, making the peaceful settlement of matters an impossible task.

Regarding the aggressive practices of the United States in Europe and Central America, Isidoro Malmierca said that this Yankee policy represents a grave overall threat to peace in the world. The conduct of President Ronald Reagan is one of confrontation and thus he avoids negotiations which could lead to peace both in the continent and in Central America, the chief of the Cuban diplomatic corps told journalists. He stressed that the Yankee objective is to keep the Latin American region unchanged despite all the inherent efforts to the contrary on the part of various countries, such as those which comprise the Contadora Group.

Isidoro Malmierca reiterated Cuba's support for the efforts aimed at solving the problems in Central America and its willingness to accept decisions which may have favorable results for Nicaragua and for other countries of the region.

The Cuban foreign minister stressed that in contrast with that policy of willingness to negotiate, the United States has sent its war fleet to Nicaragua's coasts, while over 1,000 Yankee soldiers are taking part in wide-ranging military maneuvers with Honduran troops. These war maneuvers are slated to continue over several months, and their ultimate objective is to blockade Nicaragua as a preliminary step for U.S. intervention, the Cuban foreign minister charged.

Malmierca will travel from Warsaw to Krakow today, where he is scheduled to visit various historic and cultural sites in Poland's southern region.

SERGIO DEL VALLE LEADS DELEGATION TO NICARAGUA

FL262356 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Sergio del Valle Jimenez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo and minister of public health, today arrived in Managua in response to an invitation extended by the Sandinist government.

Del Valle is heading a delegation which will attend the graduation of the "30th Moncada Anniversary" contingent, comprised of 200 interns in their last year of medical school. This is the second contingent to receive their titles in the homeland of Sandino since 1982.

Lea Guido, member of the Sandinist National Assembly and minister of health, was on hand at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport to welcome Sergio Del Valle and his delegation. The young Cubans will graduate on Saturday with a group of Nicaraguans who studied and worked with them in 15 hospitals scattered throughout 7 departments. The Cuban delegation is comprised of Adolfo Valdivia, member of the PCC Central Committee and secretary general of the National Health Workers Union; Raul Castellanos Lage, member of Union of Young Communists National Committee; and Olga Maria Oceja, president of the Federation of University Students, among others.

HONDURAN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC 'CRISIS' EXAMINED

PA290214 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Aug 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Located in the very heart of Central America, Honduras is now the least developed country in the region, with one of the lowest per capita incomes on the continent and one of the poorest economies. Honduras is the only Central American country bordering Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemela. It has been one of the most unstable nations on the continent.

In Honduras there have been 262 civil wars and 49 wars with neighboring countries; 13 political constitutions have been approved; and 158 changes of government have occurred. An interesting article published by the Cuban magazine BOHEMIA includes an enlightening synopsis of the political-economic situation in Honduras, which is seldom reported by the press.

Political stability in Honduras is only apparent. President Roberto Suazo Cordova's power is in question because the real power is exerted by General Gustavo Alvarez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces. He was appointed to the post with the blessings of the U.S. ambassador to Honduras, John Negroponte, who is well-known for his involvement in the U.S. war against Vietnam, in the military coup against Chilean President Salvador Allende, and now in the undeclared war against Nicaragua.

Honduras is now experiencing an extremely critical economic crisis. Honduran per capita consumption and foreign trade have dropped drastically, and the external debt and imbalance in foreign payments have increased. Of a total population of 3.8 million, more than 500,000 workers are unemployed. A spokesman for the Honduran private business council predicted the bankruptcy of 600 businesses in 1983.

These figures lead us to believe that Honduras cannot even begin to pay for the weapons it has received from the United States, and the country survives on the financial support offered by Washington. This small Central American nation, where over 50 percent of the population is illiterate, has been chosen by the United States for the role of gendarme in the region, from where the United States supports the former Somozist guards' bands and mercenaries against Nicaragua and offers military advice to the troops of the genocial regime of El Salvador.